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WASHINGTON COLLEGE MAGAZINE



Women Athletes Take A Stab At Equality

HONORING HELEN GIBSON
PRESIDENT TROUT ON CULTURAL DIVERSITY
WC'S OWN RENAISSANCE MAN

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About the Cover: Members of the 1930 Fencing Club included (counterclockwise from left) Jane White '30, Naudain Moore Bond '30, Ann Kreeger Matthews '33, and Coach Doris T. Bell.

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THE REPORTER

Trout Launches Coeducation Celebration

In a scholarly convocation address that placed in historical context the momentous decision of the Board of Visitors and Governors to open the college doors to women, President Charles H. Trout launched the 100th anniversary of coeducation at Washington College.

Explaining the 19th century image of the "true" woman, Trout said women were imagined to represent the cardinal virtues of piousness, purity, submissiveness, and domesticity.

"If women became lawyers, ministers, physicians, lecturers, politicians, or any sort of public character," said Trout, it was believed "the home would suffer neglect."

In the mid-1800s, women began to resist these limitations. Trout recalled the Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls in 1848, during which the delegates observed that "the history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having as indirect object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her. . . . In entering upon the great work before us, we anticipate no small amount of misconception, misrepresentation, and ridicule; but we shall use every instrumentality within our power to effect our object."

"And use these instrumentalities they did," said Trout, "as part of the westward movement, as abolitionists, as organizers of the Suffrage Movement, as temperance leaders, as labor leaders struggling to gain control over



their own earnings, as advocates of new property rights in divorce proceedings, as champions of access to the professions of medicine, and law and theology, as advocates of women's colleges . . . and, yes, as advocates of co-education."

Trout said Washington College's decision to enroll women "took place on the cusp between the stultifying images of women transmitted by the Cult of True Womanhood and a scorching attack by feminists of the 1890s upon the maternal pieties that had kept females in their proper sphere" of home and hearth.

It was an experiment that worked. Men and women went to class together, studied the same curriculum, completed the same degree requirements.

Yet older images of women and older expectations persisted, he said. "It would be unreasonable to imagine that these pioneers of coeducation could break sharply with the conven-

May Matthews '85 was the first woman to complete the academic course at Washington College.

tionalities of their era. College regulations, for instance, state that 'social intercourse between gentlemen and lady students is strictly forbidden except in the presence of one or more teachers.'

"On a much more cosmic scale, the tensions between old and new manifested themselves in 1896 when the Board of Visitors and Governors voted to create a 'Normal School' or a 'Normal Department' — a college within a college that was designed to train teachers for service on the Eastern Shore. Both sexes were certainly free to be admitted but in practice the admittees were overwhelmingly women, and this was anticipated. There would be a two-year course of study, not four. In defending this change, proponents argued that women were natural nurturers.

WC Honors Former First Lady

The first to be recognized in a year that will celebrate the accomplishments of women, Helen Schaefer Gibson, First Lady of Washington College from 1950 until 1970, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts during Fall Convocation.

Gibson, a gifted pianist, was recognized for her role in helping establish the Washington College Concert Series and the Women's League of Washington College (both celebrating 40th anniversaries this year) and for her continued support of the arts at Washington College.

A graduate of the University of Ohio, she earned a second bachelor's degree in music and a master's degree in music at the University of Cincinnati's Conservatory of Music.

Upon receiving the honorary doctorate, Gibson said: "I first came to the Washington College campus in August of 1950. Forty-one years later, I thought it was a time in my life when I could retire, sit back, take it easy, and watch life go by. But after receiving this prestigious degree I know I cannot do that. I have to continue to study, to learn (and



there are so many things I want to learn I'll never live long enough), and to be as active as I can. After all, that's what it is all about, isn't it?"

Fittingly, as President Charles H. Trout launched the celebration of the centenary of coeducation at Washington College, women walked away with nearly all the scholarship prizes awarded that evening. Maria Jerardi won the Freshman Scholarship Award for earning the highest cumulative average in the freshman class. Conci Pope won the Alumni Medal for achieving the highest cumulative aver-

Helen Gibson accepts her honorary degree from President Trout as Marshal Ermon Foster adjusts her hood.

age among sophomores. Jennifer Del Nero was awarded the Visitors and Governors Medal for having the highest average among juniors, and Conci Pope and Keri Nygaard were presented with the Visitors and Governors Scholarship Awards. Middendorf Scholarships were awarded to India Henson and Andy Bohutinsky.

Women had unique capacities to work with young children. Women were uniquely fit to serve. Once the Normal Department was instituted, the enrollment of women jumped from 33 to 74 within a decade. Then in 1910-11 the Normal Department was terminated. By that time, 132 women from Washington College had received a normal certificate. Only 14 had received a bachelor's diploma.

"Today we look back to these brave pioneers, caught as they were on the edge of old and new visions about the capacities of women, about the very nature of womanhood. And we admire them. We admire them for their bravery in the face of resentments. We admire the College's commitment to equality, incomplete as it may have been. We understand the limitations. We do not wrench these events out of historical context and judge them according to the standards of the 1990s.

"Even today it is worth asking whether Washington College is in fact a coeducational institution or whether it is a place where men and women incidentally happen to go. To what degree do we engage in gender stereotyping? To what degree is the selection of Student Government Association representatives, or the heads of campus organizations, gender neutral? To what degree are academic choices influenced by images of gender that date back to an earlier era? To what degree are opportunities both at Washington College and the larger society truly equal? To what degree does the Cult of True Womanhood, after so many years, continue to persist?

"In the year ahead, as we commemorate 100 years of coeducation, we will have many chances to think about these crucial matters. We owe it to our 19th century forebears to do no less."

Concert Series Marks 40th Season

The nearest professional music auditorium is 75 miles away, but acclaimed musical performers have been lured to the intimate settings of Washington College's William Smith Hall and Tawes Theatre time and time again during the past four decades.

According to Dutch Dumschott's *History of Washington College*, the first concert series in 1951-52 season was arranged through the cooperation of the Chester Community Music Group and the College. The late Robert L. Forney and Mrs. Daniel Z. Gibson (see above), wife of the College President, were guiding forces.

This year's star-studded season opened to a packed house with the Juilliard String Quartet. (See "College Events" for upcoming concerts.)

College Commits To Cultural Diversity

Cultural diversity. It has become the educational buzzword of the 1990s, and it is an issue with which the Washington College administration is grappling. While the College recently hired a minority to join the library faculty, there are no full-time black professors on the academic faculty. The Admissions Office hired its first black admissions officer this past summer to help attract minority students. Although ten percent of this year's entering class represent ethnic minorities, Washington College lags far behind its peers in terms of the proportional number of minority students enrolled.

At the Lilly Endowment Workshop on the Liberal Arts this summer, a team of five administrators, including President Charles H. Trout, explored several avenues to enhance diversity among the student body and faculty.

As a result of this report, the Board of Visitors and Governors of Washington College passed a resolution this fall endorsing the pursuit of greater cultural diversity as a top priority of the institution. The College's mission statement is undergoing revision to reflect that objective. There are changes in the wind.

We went to President Trout for some insight into what the institution is doing to address this issue.

Our total minority enrollment stands at about 5.8 percent. How does that figure compare with those of our peers?

CT: It's very much towards the low end. Out of the 161 national liberal arts institutions, we're in the bottom five. I must say that 5.8 percent sounds a lot better than 3 percent, which is what we showed in 1989-90.

Has the College established a goal to reach within, say, the next three to five years?

We've established no numerical goals, and I want to stay away from making this an issue of numbers. What I hope to accomplish is to bring to Washington College the best, most interesting mix of students we possibly can. We do, however, have a time table for objectives we hope to meet over the next three to five years, but these are only in the discussion stages.

Why do you think Washington College has had such difficulty in attracting minorities?

CT: That's difficult for me to say. After all, I haven't been here through that period and I can only guess. This is an area of the country that had some acute difficulties during the Civil Rights movement. One can see patterns of segregation still very much in place on the Eastern Shore and whether, therefore, youngsters would find this a congenial atmosphere is a question worth asking.

"For Washington College to isolate the more traditional student from the kind of contact they will face in the world once they graduate, is to shortchange them."

I believe that Washington College has been receptive to black kids. Over the years Washington College has wanted black students, and we have had some marvelous young men and women in our midst. The question of whether we have done that in a conscious and determined way, or whether it just happened in a natural way, is also worth asking. My hunch is that until very recently there has not been the kind of concerted effort that many other schools have lavished on this problem.

Why is the issue of cultural diversity so important to our institution now?

We live in a multi-cultural world. We live in a culturally pluralistic society. For Washington College to isolate the more traditional student from the kind of contact they will face in the world once they graduate, is to shortchange them. We would also be a more interesting, vital, and more realistic place were we more nearly to approximate the world at large.

How have we already begun to change the status quo?

CT: In the Admissions operation we

have taken a number of initiatives, targeting certain schools for repeated visits, inviting large groups of students to campus from targeted high schools. We also participate in search services that target minorities. We have been talking to foundations, and we have put in place the first full-time African-American admissions officer in the College's history. We are working hard at it, and it is beginning to pay some dividends.

What about the black students enrolled now?

Unquestionably, they are our best salespeople for Washington College, and they have been most forthcoming in helping us follow up with students who are interested, hosting them when they're on campus, and saying to friends that this is a pretty good place to go to school.

During a recent President's Forum with students, you reported that only 127 out of 1800 black high school juniors on the entire Eastern Shore took the PSATs. What efforts can Washington College make to encourage local blacks and economically disadvantaged students to go to college?

CT: I think we have a real role to play there, and we can begin at once by volunteering our services to speak to kids in Kent and Queen Anne's county high schools who are nearing college age. But I think when you look at a statistic like 127 students taking the PSATs, that is truly appalling. It also doesn't tell us what they are scoring on these tests. To solve that problem, one has to begin a long time before they enter high school. Consequently, we are contemplating early intervention programs that could reach youngsters as early as first grade. In other words, we are committed to working over the long run. We have a moral obligation to do it but I also think that like most moral obligations, it is in our self-interest to do it.

What will this trend towards cultural diversity mean to the College's curriculum?

CT: We have to determine whether we are offering courses that have to do with cultural pluralism in the late 20th century. I do not foresee the need to eliminate courses in order to accommodate cultural diversity in the cur-

riculum. We are already doing a number of things one would associate with a curriculum that is in tune with modernity. In addition, there are many faculty "mainstreaming." In a course in American history from 1865 to the present, for example, a number of black history topics are already included. On the other hand, the instructor might decide to pay more attention to the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s. That kind of fine-tuning is very easy. It is important to emphasize that the bits and pieces of what one might call an Africana and Hispanic Studies Program are already in place at the College. They need to be gathered together in a more coherent way.

What other new student markets is the Admissions Office exploring?

CT: Diversity at Washington College can also mean ethnic groups other than black, Hispanic, and Asian. The percentage of Jewish students at this

College has never been great. Last year's entering class reported 4 to 5 percent. Why has that been? Partly because we have made no particular effort to accommodate Judaism either in the curriculum or in the student activities area. By working hard and successfully to get a Hillel chapter here at the College, we have taken a step. We intend to seek a person or persons who can offer one or more courses in Judaica. Once that begins to happen, I predict that we will see some changes.

Certainly the College is interested in international recruitment and we have retained an outside consultant to help us launch initiatives in Central and South America, in Europe, and conceivably in Africa and Asia. We will see some changes in that direction too as we move further towards diversification.

What are these initiatives going to cost in terms of money and manpower?

CT: If we get into an early intervention

program that involves Kent & Queen Anne's counties and, a year or two after that the upper Eastern Shore, and then perhaps the metropolitan areas off the Shore, we are going to have to consider hiring a director who can guide us in the right direction. This could begin as a half-time position, and we will certainly seek to fund it with outside sources.

A good deal of what we imagine happening will involve our own students. We think the kind of mentoring that could go on in the elementary and middle schools, and the high school, is something that a [student volunteer] organization like Hands Out will endorse and staff. We think that there are faculty who would want to give some time and effort to this. I do not imagine a massive new staff coming on board at Washington College to make this thing go. Unquestionably, we are also going to need to mobilize and enlist the support of the people in the community. I am confident that over time, we will succeed.

Poetry And Science Mix Perfectly For Patricia White

by Tarin Towers '94

We all have a bit of creativity," Patricia Godbolt White '64 says. She exemplifies the blend of liberal arts and sciences idealized in the Washington College curriculum. Chair of the science department at Booker T. Washington High School in Norfolk, Virginia, White is also a poet.

White's first collection of poetry, *Evolution of Esprit d'P. G.*, was published in early 1991 by Vantage Press. She characterizes her poems as "inspirational." Poems such as "Horizon to Hope," "Reflection," and "Pathway" demonstrate her characteristic themes of hope, joy, self-exploration, and personal salvation. Often, her poems of Christian faith are directed at those needing guidance. In "Jeweled Crown," she advises how to find the right path: "And your angel will show you how/How to find the true you . . ." They are soft, strongly rhymed

verses which are more celebrational than didactic. Teaching a lesson, however, is important to White with both her students and her own children.

Teaching, White feels, is similar to child-bearing: you are with your students for nine months, and it is a huge

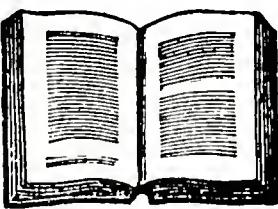


responsibility. "Besides imparting knowledge, you have to address a number of the students' situations as adolescents — you have to get beyond that in order to get the content across."

A mother of three herself, White

finds no difficulty being a woman in the science world. Her advice to her children and her students is simple: "You are only limited by your self and your own concepts . . . don't let others limit you." White feels that the current teaching shortage (especially in the fields of science and math) is the result of a combination of women having more options, and of academically oriented students going into higher-paying fields, such as engineering. "In the days of the Normal School, women weren't as welcome in as many areas as they are today. They're free to make choices now."

Other things about Washington College and women have changed just since the 1960s. Girls were allowed to wear pants in public on campus for the first time shortly before White arrived here, and her friends at other schools were jealous. "We thought that was a big thing." While living on the second floor of Minta Martin, she "had a front-row seat — boys would serenade the girls from the street, and when couples said goodnight, they'd kiss on the rock in front of the dorm. I guess they don't do that anymore."



WHAT'S ON THE NIGHTSTAND?

We thought we'd find out what people around campus have been reading lately. This time around we asked members of the English department.

The Message to the Planet exposes the fantastic nature of human reality. Iris Murdoch makes the reader see the mythical and magic elements that connect her disparate characters — and all men and women who grocery shop and get parking tickets and wonder whether their lives aren't a little strange.

—Dr. Beverly Wolff

Because a young friend of mine has been diagnosed as having AIDS, I spent part of the summer reading about the disease, hoping to learn and, if possible, to understand. I think I did learn a bit; understanding is elusive. I was moved by how Paul Monette's *Borrowed Time* depicted the devastation of a way of life and I was deeply disturbed by how Randy Shilt's *And the Band Played On* showed how long-delayed was the response to the seriousness of the epidemic. Still, the most poetic rendering of this new level of awareness in contemporary society remains, for me, Susan Sontag's "story" in *The New Yorker* a couple of years ago. Called "The Way We Live Now," it most deeply renders the sense of love and loss with which our century is coming to its close.

—Dr. Bennett Lamond

I particularly enjoyed reading and thinking about the poems in *Idylls* since Theocritus reflects many of our concerns in the late 20th century. His writing is characterized by a self-consciousness. There was enough fine literature written for him to be aware of an influence from the past, an influence he cannot ignore, like the recollection of a stare that remains after you have departed from a loved one.

—Dr. Richard Gillin

Junior Fellows Program Sends Students Far and Near

Andy Bohutinsky, a senior economics major, spent three weeks in Hungary witnessing first-hand how the Hungarian economy was responding to the introduction of free enterprise. Kathy Brewster, a senior biology major, was closer to home, studying in the Environmental Concern's Wetland Science Training Program in St. Michaels, Maryland. They are just two of eight students whose summer independent study projects were supported by the Junior Fellows Program.

Bohutinsky, whose grandparents were forced to emigrate from their Hungarian homeland by the communists in 1949, was awarded a \$2,500 stipend to study economic reform underway in the emerging democratic state. Bohutinsky stayed with relatives in Budapest to study the effects of privatization of Hungary's government-owned businesses.

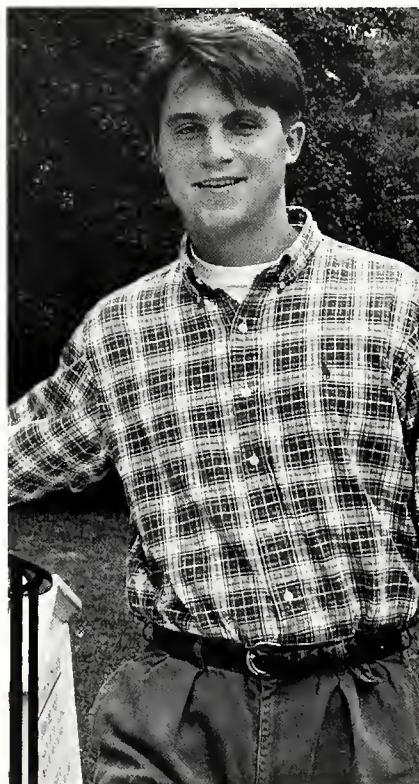
He concentrated on the Aquincom Porcelain Company in Budapest, a mid-sized figurines manufacturer re-

cently purchased from the state by private owners. While the company showed a profit within a few months of private ownership, Bohutinsky found it was not without human cost.

"The first thing the owners did was fire a third of the workforce — that shows just how bloated some of these businesses were. Three to four percent of the Hungarian workforce is now unemployed. That's not too bad by American standards, but being a socialist country they had never experienced unemployment before. There is a lot of pessimism about moving to a private economy," he says.

Other problems facing the Hungarian people include runaway inflation (30 to 35 percent annually), a shrinking gross national product, dwindling pensions for the elderly, and a growing fear that foreign investors will soon control Hungary's economy.

While Bohutinsky found that American dollars go far in the Hungarian marketplace (he purchased a first class train ticket for a three-hour trip for \$4), Hungarians themselves are in an economic pinch. "No one has any money. The average worker makes \$200 a month and it is extremely expensive to live in Budapest. You find large families living in small apartments. Office space is at a premium."



Andy Bohutinsky



Kathy Brewster

Flying High

by Andrea Kehoe

Jenny Butler '79 probably is the only honoree in Hall of Fame history who vowed to stay off the playing field when she came to Washington College. Busy with sports during high school, she intended to focus on classwork.

"I thought I could do it," she says. "I lasted about a week or two, and then I found myself over at the gym shooting some basketball. I realized it was just part of my life, that I needed athletics."

A self-proclaimed "jock-of-all-trades," Butler took part in softball, tennis, and crew at college, and helped to start the volleyball team her freshman year. Instead of diminishing her academic life, the time she spent at sports provided a release that enhanced it.

"If you have time when you can physically exert yourself and you don't have to worry about thinking," she explains, "then your mind is more ready to accept the information that you get in classes and from reading books."

Playing sports also honed skills she now uses as a commercial airline pilot for USAir, she says. Along with developing hand-eye coordination, she learned the value of teamwork, an important aspect of dealing with a flight crew.

"I liked the good feeling you get from team sports when everyone clicks, the really good sense of unity," says the former psychology major. "There's so much importance placed on getting along with people."

Butler earned a private pilot's license at Summit Aviation in Middletown, Delaware, while at the College, and knew right away that she had stumbled across her dream career. As well-rounded a pilot as she is an athlete, she is a licensed private, commercial, instrument, and airline transport



pilot and a certified flight instructor.

After a year of teaching at Summit while coaching WC softball, she worked for a charter airline and a commuter airline, and then flew as a corporate pilot for General Electric. A commercial airline pilot for the last three years, she is based in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Despite the perks of free travel and a great view of the sunset, the job means

long days of up to eight flights. Since airline mergers and furloughs caused her to lose seniority, Butler now works as a reserve pilot, living at the mercy of her beeper.

"If I go food shopping, I'll bring my uniform and a suitcase packed for a four-day trip," she says. "If I get called while I'm in town, I can just go directly to the airport."

Despite the uncertainty of her schedule, Butler usually doesn't mind sticking close to home. She plays in a local tennis league, runs five times a week, and swims in Lake Norman, which her home in Statesville, an hour north of Charlotte, overlooks.

As a woman pilot, she has plenty of company in the skies, with several hundred female pilots at USAir and thousands more in the airline industry. While some passengers, apparently considering women more cautious than men, express relief to see her in the cockpit, others are alarmed.

Looking younger than her 34 years doesn't help. "Some passengers," she explains, "look at me and say, 'Oh, my God. A young girl.' If I only had gray hair or a bunch of wrinkles."

When someone questions a woman pilot's capabilities, Butler says, the best response is humor. "What you tell them then is, 'You know, we're flying the airplane, not carrying it.'"

The Hungarian people need loans to jump-start the economy, he says. American and West German investors are leading the pack of foreign investors, and the locals are being given a chance to start their own businesses through a government-sponsored voucher program that will give up to \$67,000 in restitution to those who had property seized before World War II.

Kathy Brewster spent her summer on the shores of the Chesapeake learning how to reclaim property from a different menace — erosion and overdevelopment. Environmental Concern, a non-profit organization established by conservationist Edward Garbisch in 1974 to help slow bank erosion through wetland plantings, started the Wetland Science Training Program two years ago. The program

brings together experts in the fields of horticulture, marine biology, surveying, and government regulations and offers intense study of plant mitigation and propagation, soil conservation and environmental law. Brewster was one of 13 trainees accepted.

Chevron Corp. sponsored Brewster's \$6,000 tuition, and the Junior Fellows Program paid her a \$2,500 stipend for travel and living expenses.

"Ed's [Garbisch] philosophy is to look at the entire ecosystem in considering what plants to introduce to a certain area," says Brewster. "He considers everything from how they will thrive, to how they might benefit the fiddler crabs or snails, to how they will look aesthetically."

Brewster, whose biological field of interest is invertebrates, says she

learned so much that she might not otherwise have been exposed to, especially in the areas of botany and land contouring. She was introduced to 300 plants in just two and a half weeks, spent a week studying the constitution of wetland soils, learned land grading techniques and how to read land surveys and soil maps, and was given an overview of environmental laws and how they have evolved. For three weeks she worked directly with Garbisch in learning how to create and maintain wetlands. Environmental Concern operates a wet plant nursery year-round and conducts various wetland growing experiments.

"When we were studying government regulations and what constitutes a wetland, Ed prefaced everything by saying what we were learning would

Dr. Richard Brown 1921-1991

Richard Harland Brown, chair of the mathematics and computer science department at Washington College for 26 years, died of cancer on October 13, 1991, at the age of 69. Brown, who had been living in Langlade, France, since his retirement in 1986, was a native of Gloversville, New York, and was educated at Columbia University, where he received his bachelor's degree in 1942 and his Ph.D. in 1951. During World War II, he was employed as a mathematician by the Navy Department. After teaching at George Washington, Columbia, Boston, and American universities, and working for the Army and the Navy on classified research projects, Brown joined the Washington College faculty as an associate professor in 1960 and was promoted to full professor a year later.

Brown restructured the mathematics curriculum at Washington

College and produced texts for several courses. He was the prime mover in bringing advanced computing facilities to the campus and devoted a great



PHOTO: PEGGY FOX

deal of time and effort to writing academic and administrative computing programs and to instructing his colleagues in the use of computers.

Drawing on his expertise in another area, he also contributed to the teaching of courses on opera in the music

department. A recognized leader of the faculty, Professor Brown was regularly elected by his colleagues to the most important positions in the structure of faculty governance of the College.

Brown was a passionate devotee of the opera and retained an avid interest in cryptography. He was a member of numerous learned societies, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, and the Operations Research Society of America. Among Brown's many awards were election to Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Mu Epsilon (national honorary mathematical fraternity), Sigma Xi (national honorary scientific fraternity), and the New York Academy of Sciences.

In 1965, Washington College presented Brown with the prestigious Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Brown is survived by Armand Mettraux of Langlade, France, and by a brother, Ernest Brown, of Victor, New York.

probably change within a year," Brewster recalls. "There was a joke circulating about a politician's definition of a wetland—if you throw a rock and hear a splash, then it's a wetland." But the true definition is not quite so narrow, she says. By looking at the soil and vegetation on a given property, one can delineate wetland from upland.

Brewster's summer experience may not have changed her career goal—she is looking into George Washington University's physician's assistant training program—but she is glad to have had the experience.

Other projects funded by the Junior Fellows Program included: Julianne Dolde's work as a research assistant at a local drug and alcohol outpatient facility, Steven Bouchey's internship with the Hansard Society for Political Government in London, Jennifer Grindle's work cataloging the Kent County Historical Society archives while working on a novel, Jennifer Griffin's internship with the Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore, and Brooke Frank's internship in the Maryland Governor's Office.

Brogan And Duemling Named To Board

William J. Brogan '52 and Washington College Fellow Robert Werner Duemling have been named to the College's Board of Visitors and Governors.

Brogan, chairman and chief executive officer of the Talbot Bank in Easton, returns for second term on the board. He previously served as an alumni representative in the mid-1980s.

Active in community affairs, he has served on the boards of Kent School, Inc., the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the Maryland Higher Education Loan Corporation, and the Maryland Division of the American Cancer Society, to name a few. On behalf of Washington College, he has played a leading role in organizing the Talbot County Breakfasts, a community outreach program, and in helping raise scholarship money for college applicants from Talbot County.

Duemling, a career officer in the U.S. Foreign Service, served as U.S. Ambassador to Suriname in 1982-84 and from 1976 to 1980 was Deputy Chief of Mission at the American Embassy in Ottawa. He spent 11 years in East Asian affairs, serving in Malaysia and Japan.

Past director of the Nicaraguan Humanitarian Assistance Office, he is now president and director of the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

Philosophy Professor Receives Army's Highest Civilian Honor

When J. David Newell, professor and chair of the philosophy department at Washington College, ended his two-year sabbatical as Visiting Professor in the humanities at the United States Military Academy in New York, he brought home more than fond memories of the cadets he

taught and the friends he made.

Upon his departure last summer, he was presented with the Army's prestigious Outstanding Civilian Service Medal. The Medal is the Army's highest honor bestowed upon a civilian. One civilian each year is singled out to receive the honor.

Professor Newell, who specializes in matters of ethics, particularly medical ethics, taught several philosophy courses at West Point and conducted seminars for faculty. He was one of only 13 civilian professors living and teaching at West Point.

"He shaped the intellect of virtually all philosophy elective students by teaching a core course and four advanced courses, a remarkable contribution," his citation reads. "He also assisted faculty members with scholarship projects and provided wise pedagogical counsel. Professor Newell's outstanding service is an enduring

credit to him, Washington College, the Military Academy, and the United States Army."

Professor Newell said upon his return to Chestertown: "Teaching at the Military Academy was a wonderful experience, but I'm glad to be back."

Sophomore Publishes Poetry In The Wittenberg Review

The poetry of Tanya Allen, a sophomore at Washington College, has been published in a national publication of scholarly and creative work by undergraduates in the liberal arts.

Three poems — "Real Writers," "Sweetheart," and "Divorced Child" — were published in the spring 1991 edition of *The Wittenberg Review: An*

Undergraduate Journal of the Liberal Arts. Published twice a year by Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, *The Wittenberg Review* is a national, undergraduate journal of college writing representing some of the best research and creative writing produced by liberal arts students today.

Allen, of Trumbull, Connecticut, is studying at WC on a Sophie Kerr writing scholarship. She won first prize in the adult poetry division at the Trumbull Arts Festival's Literary Competition and a fourth place in the 1988 National Scholastic poetry contest. She also has published poems in *Scholastic Scope*, *Scholastic Voice*, and *Literary Calvacade*. In 1989, she published an essay in the "Connecticut Opinion" section of *The New York Times*.

This semester she has turned her attention to fiction writing. A member of the Writers' Union, she writes a column for the *Elm*.



"Cheap Eats" And Local Artists . . . At The Imperial Hotel?

The Imperial Hotel has always offered a touch of elegance to downtown Chestertown. Lately owners Carla and Al Massoni are enticing local and out-of-town visitors with some less-expensive menu offerings and a new showplace for local artists. Now you can dine for under \$10 and read a Bob Day novel while you're doing it. The Washington College Magazine sent its phantom diners/shoppers to investigate. They came back with this report:

There are several ways to take advantage of the new "cheap eats" at the Imperial on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings.

The "\$19.91 Special" is a *prix fixé*

three-course meal that offers an appetizer, entree, and dessert for the price of a typical entree alone off the regular menu. The night we visited, this option included shrimp, scallop, and mussel bisque, beef tenderloin tips, and fresh raspberries with vanilla sauce. The portions were healthy, the beef came with a full complement of vegetables, and the berries were a wonderful light dessert.

The "Early Bird Special," available from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., offers an entree for under \$10, a great alternative for those who want dinner without loading up on all the extras. That night the entree for \$9.95 was pork tenderloin with black beans, dried tomatoes, sour cream and orange broth. This would be plenty enough to eat for the diner of average appetite. The difficulty for us was passing up the clam bisque which we later agreed Chef Dan Turgeon has elevated to divine status at the Imperial with sweet corn, potatoes, chives, and croutons.

Yet another alternative for under \$10 is a "simple" meal of soup and salad. Turgeon's soups are especially worthy of this consideration and the menu always offers a selection of salads, from the familiar to the exotic (the night we were there we passed up the watercress with toasted walnuts, tomatoes, cracklings and goat cheese).

Another interesting development at

the Imperial is a new sub-sidewalk gallery/ shop called The Cellar at the Imperial. Though the basement space is small, Washington College artists are well represented. In addition to Sue Tessem paintings and pottery, there are hand-woven shawls from the loom of Katherine Trout, framed poems by Kathy Wagner, and copies of Bob Day's books available. "We have all these incredibly talented people here," says Carla Massoni. "We wanted an opportunity to show their work."

In addition to local offerings, The Cellar features work by artists from all over the United States and abroad. Alongside origami paper jewelry and brightly painted carved wooden fish are a selection of fine wines and homemade bread.

"The underlying theme," explains Massoni, "is that these are people who have taken their craft and elevated it to an art form."

The Imperial Hotel is open Tuesday through Saturday evenings for dinner and Sunday for brunch. The Cellar at the Imperial will be open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 to 5 through the holidays.

The Imperial Hotel also has 11 rooms and two suites available for overnight guests. For room rates, general information, or dinner reservations call 410-778-5000.

In The Race For Recruitment, Kevin Coveney Goes The Distance

by Sue De Pasquale '87

Kevin Coveney folds himself into a small wooden chair and smiles engagingly at the three high school students, two girls and a boy, who sit before him. He is here on this crisp September morning at Milford Mill High School in Baltimore County, in the office of guidance counselor Yvonne Addison. Coveney, director of admissions at Washington College since 1983, has just 15 minutes to introduce these potential freshmen to the virtues of attending a small liberal arts college on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

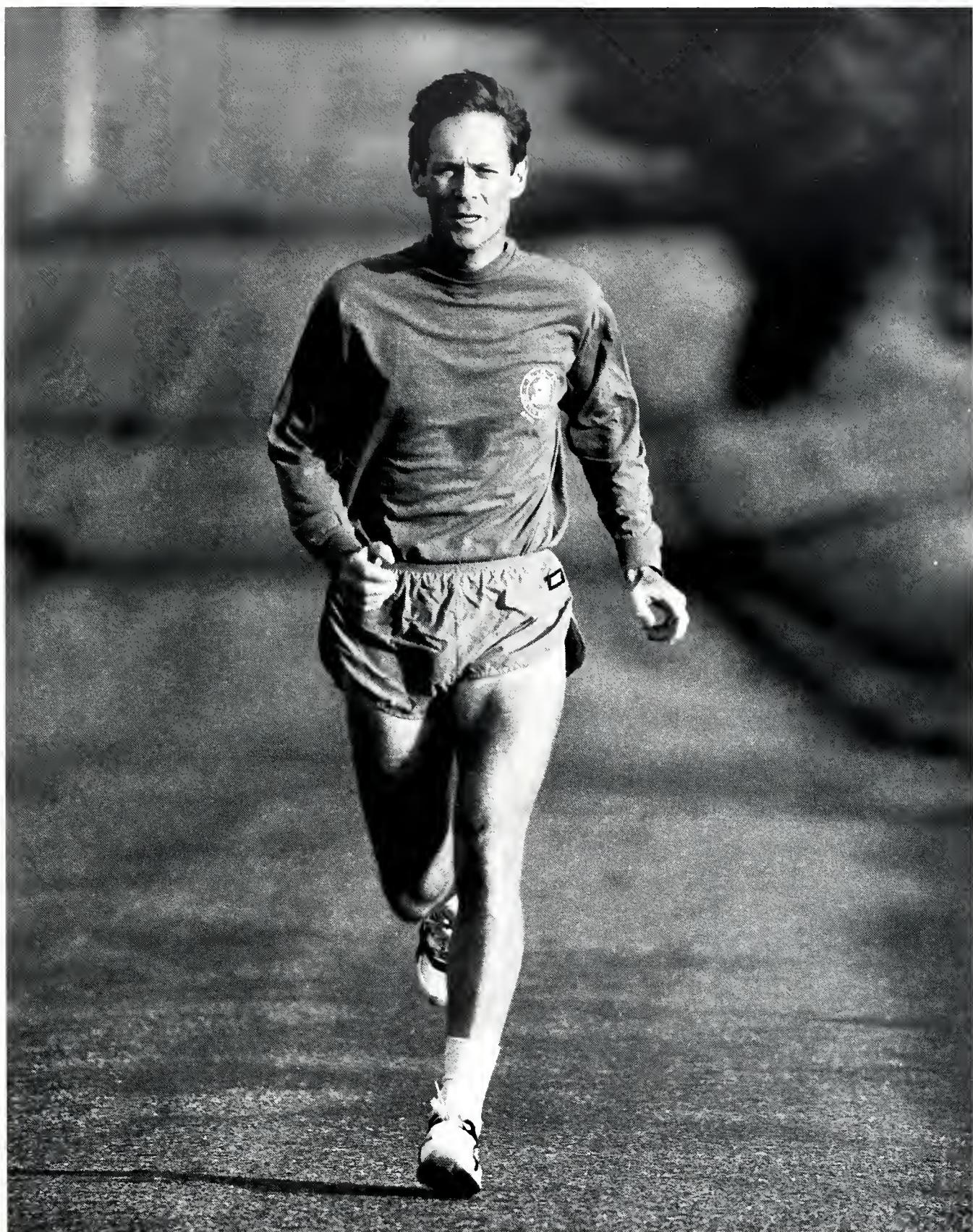
"Rather than just talk at you," he says, after a quick overview of the place, "I'd like to answer whatever questions you might have about Washington College." It doesn't take long for the question of cost to arise. In his measured, friendly manner of speaking, he tells them that tuition, room, and board currently total around \$17,000. "Is that for all four years?" asks Gabrielle, a quiet-voiced senior decked out in denim. Coveney softens his answer by pointing out the "huge amount" of money available for both need-based aid and merit scholarships. "What we tell accepted applicants is that we guarantee to meet 100 percent of whatever your demonstrated need is," he tells the three. "We also have endowed funds for minority scholarships." That information gets nods of interest from Gabrielle and Mike, who are African-Americans, and Susannah, who is Asian.

Talk turns to campus security. "What concerns my mother is the campus violence you hear so much about," says Gabrielle. Coveney looks at Susannah, who attended a gifted and talented program at Washington College last summer. "You've been there, Susannah. How would you describe Chestertown?" he asks. Her response is more effective than a college viewbook could be. "It's so tranquil there, and very, very secure. 'Quiet' is really the only word I can think of," she tells Gabrielle. "If you're not into nightclubs and spending money, I think you'd like Chestertown."

Adds Coveney, "Violent crime is virtually non-existent at Washington College. It's the kind of place that mothers love," he says with a smile. "I really encourage you to come visit campus." His time up, he passes out applications and glossy brochures, then packs up his briefcase to go. Before the morning is over, he'll make similar visits to two more schools.

The four members of his admissions staff, associate director James "Dal" Holmes, and assistant directors Kathy Waye '81, Alison Miller, and Steve Johnson are out on the road today as well, recruiting at high schools and college fairs not only in New Jersey, but all the way to New Orleans. By the time they finish their exhausting round of visits in early December, they will have recruited at 600 schools in 15 states and in Puerto Rico.

Their job has never been tougher. Demographically, the pool of college-bound seniors has dropped significantly in the last year or two, and will continue to shrink even more for the next three years. "For virtually every applicant out there, somebody else wants that student. We're competing with everyone," says Coveney. The



When Kevin Coveney isn't on the road for Washington College he logs from 20 to 40 miles a week training for marathons.

nation's grim economy does not make the situation any easier. State and federal cuts mean less money for financial aid. Tuition costs continue to rise. And few parents today can feel completely immune to the threat of being laid off.

"In 13 years of working in financial aid, this is the worst year I've ever seen," says Ellyn Taylor Levin, the College's new director of financial aid. "Parents are being laid off, some with [combined] incomes well over \$100,000, and because they were fairly highly employed, they are unable to find other employment because they are overqualified."

But if anyone can help Washington College to buck these dismal trends, Kevin Coveney is the one to do it, most would agree. One need only look at his track record to see why. When he started as admissions director in 1983, the College was averaging just 665 freshman applications a year. The Class of '87, which enrolled that year, totaled just 168 students; 28 percent of them failed to return for their sophomore years. By 1988, those figures had improved drastically. That year, approximately 1,150 applications rolled into Washington College's Admissions Office — nearly double the number received five years earlier. The freshman class, the Class of '92, topped out at 249 students, the largest ever in the College's history. Best of all, only 12 percent failed to return as sophomores.

Coveney, 41, is loathe to take total credit for the turnaround. He says that the brightening enrollment picture came hand-in-hand with Washington College's improved visibility, brought about in large part by the high-profile president, Douglass Cater, who joined the College in 1983. The robust economy also helped, he points out. Though the number of graduating high school students was decreasing during that period, the rosy economy helped to raise aspirations: a larger percentage of students began setting their sights on private four-year colleges. Marketing efforts at these colleges intensified, leading to what Coveney calls "application inflation." Where before students had applied to three or four colleges, they began applying to six or seven.

While these factors undoubtedly contributed to the admissions "boom years" during the 1980s, Coveney's savvy handling of the College's admissions operation should not be under-

played. By dint of sheer hard work and well-conceived strategy, the transplanted New Englander has put Washington College on solid ground to face the tough demographic times ahead. Along the way, he has become a key player in the College's administration. He was named Vice President for Admissions and Enrollment Management in 1988.

"Kevin is truly dedicated," says Kathy Waye, an admissions staff member since 1981. "He's in here seven days a week, and you'll see the light on in his office at all hours of the night."

Indeed, the words "driven" and "workaholic" are the ones most often used to describe Coveney. His dry sense of humor helps to balance the picture; and, to be fair, he has been known occasionally to let go. One colleague tells of a particularly late night when Coveney jumped into the office's main hall and let loose with an impersonation of Elvis Presley. By all accounts, his singing wasn't half bad.

Fittingly enough, Coveney's primary leisure time passion is competitive running. He has run the Boston Marathon, New York City Marathon (twice), Colorado's Pueblo River Marathon, and the Marine Corps Marathon, to name but a few. "Running is the only finite element in my day, because admissions is literally a never-ending process," explains the father of three. "I call it my 'short-term gratification.'"

Coveney's career in college admissions began two decades ago, almost by accident. He was scanning the classified section of the *Boston Globe*, when he came across a three-line ad placed by St. Francis College in Maine. The small liberal arts college was looking for an admissions counselor. "It was a job I knew nothing about and a school I knew nothing about," he recalls. "But they were looking for a college graduate, who had a valid driver's license, who enjoyed working with people. I could say yes to all three."

He recounts the tale in his sunny office, located in the spanking new Casey Academic Center. The stately, marble-pillared building offers a wel-

come contrast to the third floor of Bunting Hall — "serviceable but far from elegant" — where the Admissions offices had been located up until last year. Lanky, with closely cropped reddish hair, Coveney shifts frequently in his chair, as if trying to find a more comfortable position for his long legs.

The reason he was searching the newspaper for a job that summer of '71 was because he had fully expected to go to Vietnam. He'd pulled a low number in the draft lottery his senior year at St. Michael's College in Vermont, and, sure enough, been called



PHOTO: J.M. FRAGOMENI '88

"I prefer one-on-one encounters, seeing what the student has to offer . . . but the advent of MTV has made recruiting much more difficult. Kids today are very sophisticated in the way they interpret visual images. And the ante gets raised every year."

up for duty a month after graduating. But during his physical, the doctor turned up a dislocated shoulder, an old touch football injury, and deemed him unacceptable for military service. So, as suddenly as that, 22-year-old history major Kevin Coveney could begin planning his future.

He answered the ad in the *Globe* and landed the job at St. Francis. "I think the admissions director had a soft spot

in his heart for graduates of Catholic colleges," he says with a chuckle. Newly married to wife Joanne, a schoolteacher, he spent much of his time on the road, recruiting. Coveney was soon promoted to assistant director, and then, at the ripe old age of 25, was named acting director. The title became permanent.

But success had come almost too easily. He wanted the chance to test his mettle: "After having fallen into a directorship," he says, "I felt it would be nice to go out there and win one in a more competitive way." And so he

right and walks a block to Garnett Elementary, where she teaches first grade; Kevin turns left and walks a block to his office at the College.

Like a general planning a strategic battle, Coveney carefully assessed his admissions army during his first months on the job at Washington College. He found well-trained troops armed with a weak arsenal.

In a career field with high turnover (young admissions counselors often sign on with their *alma maters* after graduating, then leave after a few years), Washington College's admis-

students, Coveney significantly increased the number of students — and the geographic range — Washington College wanted to reach. Today, information is mailed to the homes of 40,000 high school seniors nationwide.

With broadened outreach came a much-needed overhaul of the College's publicity materials. Formerly understated pamphlets and brochures became slicker, glossier, splashed with colorful images: the men's crew slicing through the waters of the Chester River at dawn, students kicking through russet autumn leaves on their way past the Hill dorms. Coveney even launched an admissions magazine, *Profiles*, offering quick takes on the College's students, faculty, and programs, with exceedingly attractive color photos.

Six years ago came Washington College's first foray into the realm of video — eight full minutes of live tape, with student and faculty voiceovers, designed to touch on nearly every aspect of campus life. Updated last year, the video is currently in guidance offices at more than 1,000 high schools. Prospective students may view it when visiting campus or order their own copy for \$5.

Coveney isn't completely comfortable with such high-tech strategies. Some, like telemarketing firms, he has so far turned down. "I prefer one-on-one encounters, seeing what the student has to offer," he says, "but the advent of MTV has made recruiting much more difficult. Kids today are very sophisticated in the way they interpret visual images. And the ante gets raised every year."

Getting "Washington College" on the minds and lips of prospective students is only the first step. Once students show enough interest to visit campus for an interview, and they fill out an application, Coveney and his staff shift into the second phase of the battle: simply put, deciding who's in and who's out. Academic performance in high school gets more weight than scores on standardized tests like the SAT. The Admissions team usually looks for a grade point average between 3.0 and 4.0 and a combined SAT score between 900 and 1,100. Roughly two-thirds of those who apply are accepted, placing Washington College squarely in the camp of "selective" or "competitive" colleges.

But the numbers only tell part of the



did, first at Castleton State College in Vermont, later at Long Island University's Southampton College, and then, at Washington College, one of three directorships for which he was a finalist.

"Of the three, Washington College struck me as clearly the school with the most potential. There were so many good things here already — the history, the tradition — and there was a new administration trying to make things happen. It's exciting to be part of that process," Coveney explains.

Then, too, there was the rustic, small-town ambience of Chestertown, a safe, simple place that awoke in him memories of his New England childhood — a time before the "boom of technology" had changed the quality of life. He and Joanne bought a house with a sprawling backyard on Kent Circle, the perfect place to raise Jenny, Beth, and Billy, then ages 8, 5, and 2. When the couple leaves their house each morning for work, Joanne turns

sions staff is the exception. Dal Holmes, with 30 years' experience, as well as Kathy Waye and Alison Miller, have been at the College at least as long as Coveney. That breeds a sense of continuity vital to forging strong links with high school guidance counselors. "They know we'll be here to follow the student all the way through," explains Waye.

But impressed as Coveney was with his staff, Coveney recalls feeling "surprised and professionally chagrined" at the lack of name recognition that beset the College. Blank stares greeted his mention of Chestertown and Washington College during his first outing to Baltimore, he says. "It was clear that to most people, the Eastern Shore was only as wide as Route 50, and it only led to one place — Ocean City."

An aggressive direct mail campaign was his first order of business. Though the Admissions Office had been using the College Board Student Search Service to locate potential college-bound

story. To overcome the "fairly horrendous attrition rates" that beset Washington College before he arrived, Coveney and his staff have been working hard to find students who will stay once they enroll. That means being honest about the school's academic programs, and about Chestertown's small town flavor. "We find it very easy to convince applicants of the depth and rigor of the College's curriculum," says Coveney, but it's harder to "get them to believe you can have fun here. For suburban mall crawlers, Chestertown is a stretch—even the new Super Fresh won't be enough," he says drily.

The best-matched students are those who show some "affinity for what the Eastern Shore has to offer," he says, and those who will get involved in the extracurricular life of the College. Freshmen who play on a varsity team, write for the *Elm*, or serve on the SGA are more likely to stay on.

In President Charles Trout, Coveney has found an enthusiastic advocate for the admissions cause. "We need to make admissions our most prominent goal in the next few years," says Trout, who himself once worked as an admissions officer at Amherst College.

Coveney welcomes the support—especially in the face of declining enrollment. He and his staff managed to keep WC buffeted from the winds of demographic decline up through 1990, when they received 1,100 applications and enrolled 230 freshmen. But this year, they came in under target: 1,021 applications yielded just 182 freshmen, a 21 percent drop in new student enrollment from the preceding year. Coveney had seen it coming. He knew the pool of college-bound seniors would be small in 1991; "the question was," he says, "how bad the economy would be." Unfortunately, it was abysmal. Says financial aid director Ellyn Levin, "A good number of students probably decided not to enroll because of finances."

President Trout optimistically calls the decline a "temporary blip on the radar screen." He has charged Coveney with developing a five-year plan that will have Washington College "beautifully positioned" when the current demographic slump bottoms out around 1996. "I'm interested not just in surviving during this period, but thriving in it," says Trout.

As an important first step in creating

what he calls "a climate for admissions" at the college, the president had the Board of Visitors and Governors form its first Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid, which will work closely with Coveney.

"Seven or eight years ago, Washington College made annual giving a major priority and the result has been very telling," says the committee's chairman, Mark Schulman '67. "The College is now one of the top 20 in the country in terms of annual giving. I know we can do that same thing with admissions." The infusion of institu-

to recruit and retain minority students. "We've always been mindful of not wishing to exclude minorities, but that's different from making a conscious effort to include them," he says. Frederick Douglass Scholarships and William Clayton Scholarships, merit-based and aimed specifically at black students, have been established; the Starr Foundation and the Coca-Cola Foundation provide further new sources of funding. On campus, Kathy Waye is adviser to a new support group for minority students, the Dale Adams Heritage Exchange Society,



PHOTO WILLIAM MCALLEN

tional resources that Schulman alludes to is something Coveney sees as key to meeting the challenges ahead.

In order for the College to thrive in the way Trout describes, Coveney says he will concentrate on two areas: upgrading the overall quality of those who are accepted, and attracting a racially and geographically more diverse student population. Toward the first end, he and his staff will push to attract a greater number of freshman applicants. "If we can go from 1,100 applications a year to 1,500, we can afford to be more selective in who we accept," he explains.

One way of doing that is by casting their nets farther out. Last year, Dal Holmes launched the College's first recruiting effort in Puerto Rico. The intensive 10-day campaign brought in four freshman to the Class of '95. Coveney has also signed on an outside consultant to help with international recruiting. "There's a lot of potential there," he says.

Coveney is also stepping up efforts

"We've always been mindful of not wishing to exclude minorities, but that's different from making a conscious effort to include them."

which was organized this fall and has 45 members.

The good news is that minority students comprised 10 percent of the Class of '95, the largest percentage ever. But Coveney believes there's still plenty of room for improvement. By establishing college awareness programs at middle schools and high schools with large minority populations, he's hoping to prime the pump for future freshman classes.

During his 20 years in admissions, Coveney has found that nothing surpasses the value of "word-of-mouth" publicity. And alumni, he says, are in the best position to pass along the word of what Washington College has to offer. At college fairs in New Jersey, New York and New England—where the College's information table must sometimes go unmanned—there's a particular need for alumni volunteers. But alumni support for admissions can also take a more informal tack.

"Most of our alumni have a quiet pride in Washington College; perhaps that comes from spending four years in a quiet area," says Coveney. "But we really need them to start talking to their friends. We can't afford to wait much longer."

Sue De Pasquale '87 is managing editor of Johns Hopkins Magazine.

Women Athletes Vie To Even The Score At The Century Mark

By Gary Brown

As Washington College celebrates its centenary of coeducation, the institution recognizes the accomplishments of women in many fields. But the question of whether women are given equal treatment and equal opportunities *on the field* continues to be debated.

Washington College's women's athletic history is short. Only 16 years have passed since the inception of a varsity women's athletic program at the College, six years since a balance was struck between the number of men's and women's sports, and just three years since the wall in the basement of the Cain Athletic Center that had long separated men's and women's athletic teams literally came crashing down.

While the College's centennial milestone is cause for celebration, the journey has often been tumultuous. Certainly, Washington College is not alone in its slow drive toward equality on the playing fields and courts. After all, the National Collegiate Athletic Association last year celebrated only its 10th year of women's intercollegiate athletics.

With so much ground to make up, women's athletics at Washington College currently seem to be running at a breakneck pace, fast-forwarding as it were from an often discriminatory era to the plateaus that define athletic success: since 1985 WC's women athletes have made NCAA Championship appearances in swimming and tennis, won a conference championship in tennis, earned conference playoff berths in field hockey and lacrosse, won two conference championships in volleyball, and collected a number of individual honors and accolades. Though WC historically may have lagged behind in the advancement of women's athletics, the College has managed to establish a solid foundation through the tireless work of a handful of individuals.

The male dominance of athletics was rarely threatened in the early days of coeducation at the College. Though intramurals were a popular physical outlet for women, female student-athletes at the time did not demand to compete on the varsity level. Such opportunities simply did not exist. In 1936, however, a remarkably talented Jean Harshaw Lesko broke the barrier by playing men's varsity tennis. Lesko, one of only three female members of WC's Athletic Hall of Fame, recalls there was no reluctance on the part of players, coaches or administrators to allow her to play.

"I remember that Dickinson College had a women named Alice Abbott playing for their men's team whom I had played and beaten before," Lesko says. Head Coach Arthur Davis, and players like Bill Johnson, Norman Shorb and Ernest Shockley welcomed Lesko. Though the team failed to post many wins ("We did very poorly," Lesko remembers), there was no discontent regarding the gender mix.

"There were some awfully good women athletes, and there was a mutual respect between the men and women athletes. Women weren't envious of men's sports," says Lesko, who admits she has never really been a "women's libber." "For me, that wasn't the question. I just liked to play team tennis."

From 1926 to 1965, women's athletics were under the auspices of Doris Bell, the first female athlete inducted in WC's Hall of Fame, who Lesko remembers as being "very enthusiastic about dance, but not much of a physical edder." Bell, though, earned the same respect from women athletes as J. Thomas Kibler, legendary basketball coach, received from the males.

Emily Russell, a student-athlete and cheerleader at WC from 1952 to 1956, recalls Bell as having "the most erect and graceful posture of anyone I've ever known.

"She was commanding, elegant, not chummy, but not cold," says Russell, who was awarded a medal for being the best all-around women's athlete at the College in 1954. "She had us do floor exercises and basic ballet. She didn't ask anyone to do anything in gym that she could not do, but then she could do almost anything." After a reflective pause, Russell recalls, "And we worked with wands about which one contorted oneself. One wand exercise had you starting with the wand above your head and then it came out from around your feet. We didn't like them very much."

Field hockey, basketball, softball, fencing and tennis were intramural sports then for women. Men came to watch the field hockey and basketball games, and there was little resentment concerning the lack of varsity programs for women, which reflected the values of that era, says Russell.

"Women played a lot of sports," Russell says. "Everything was intramural, and we accepted that. I guess our consciousness hadn't been raised.

"One thing we did resent," Russell chuckles, "was that the men got wool letter sweaters. Ours were just cotton. And they got separate letters for each sport while we just got the one."

When Penny J. Fall was hired as the Director of Physical Education, Intramurals and Athletics in 1969, however, values and expectations were changing. It was Fall's charge to introduce real opportunities for women at Washington College on a varsity level, but at the time, according to Fall, the College's quest for equity in athletics was more claim than reality.

storage area converted to an equipment room, and a training 'corner' inside the one locker room. Additionally, the locker room contained a laundry room with two washers and dryers, which were used by the College housekeeper to service the women's practice and team laundry (the men's was done by the laundry service of the College). Students and staff alike began to recognize the disparity.

"I was not aware that the men's and women's programs were coming together for the first time when I was hired," says Fall, who was quick to



Though the label of Women's Athletic Program was in place, the College administration was slow to get the ball rolling with funding for the staff, travel, and equipment that the men's program had enjoyed for years. Even when the addition to Cain Athletic Center was completed in 1969, physically joining the two programs (the women had been in the old Cain gymnasium since 1912 until Miller Library was built in its place), there were walls separating the men's side from the women's side, and those walls were both tangible and intangible.

The men's side contained four team locker rooms, two visiting team locker rooms and showers, a training room and equipment room, a men's coaches' locker room and shower, and a faculty and staff locker room and shower. By contrast, crammed into the women's side was the coed dance studio, one locker room and one shower area to serve all teams, visiting teams, faculty, staff, coaches, and recreational users, a





PHOTO TRISHA McGEE



Above left: The 1978 softball team coached by Karen Smith. Left: Marylil Knotts Humphreys '39 takes aim with archery, a popular women's intramural sport in an earlier era. Top: The 1989 field hockey team celebrates a victory over Western Maryland. Above: The 1991 women's lacrosse team made the MAC playoffs for the first time, with help from Academic All-American Donna White (Far right).

recognize that an imbalance existed between the two. "Having run into discrimination a good portion of my life because of my career [physical education] and recreation [professional golf] choices, it's not that I hadn't encountered it before. But I became acutely aware of the problems here when I tried to schedule times for women's intramurals and practice times for the cheerleaders."

Because of the lack of space, women were delegated poor time slots for activities and practices in favor of the men's varsity sports. There were also discrepancies in quality of fields, equipment, and the availability of funds for assistant coaches.

"The College worked on such a restricted budget, money was tight everywhere," says Music Department Chair Garry Clarke, who was Dean of the College during the inception of women's varsity sports. "Traditionally, more attention had been paid to men's athletics than women's athletics. The times were different then and people

just didn't seem to be as aware of that kind of situation as they are today."

Clarke played a vital role in helping Fall create a modest budget that would allow graduates to serve as assistant coaches. "Penny made great use of the recent graduates who stayed on for a year. We were able to patch together stipends from student help lines in the budget."

One of those graduate coaches was Cindi Patchen Mullinix '78, who played volleyball and softball and participated in cheerleading during her tenure at WC. "When I got there, I was disappointed to realize that there wasn't a better women's athletic program," she says. "There wasn't much of a draw for women athletes because there were no women's athletics. Any athletes we had were by sheer coincidence." After graduation, Patchen helped Fall as an assistant in volleyball and as head coach of the softball team.

Fall was anxious for assistants because of the rapid growth of women's sports and the need for additional

staffing. Fall had sole responsibility for women's athletic training, equipment and game management, and scheduling, in addition to her other administrative duties. There was clearly need for help.

Fall turned to Clarke and eventually a permanent position was created, for which Patchen was hired.

"I did stand up for Penny," Clarke says, "but she was the driving force because she was trying to correct what she saw to be a lack in the College program. It was a central force in her life. It was something I was aware of that needed to be done, which I just considered to be part of my job. I was from a different [younger] generation than the people I worked with, so naturally I viewed things differently."

Margaret Jacks '79, a four-year volleyball player who this year will take over as President of the Sho'men Club, the College's support group for athletics, was also aware of the funding discrepancies between the women's and men's programs.

"It was my first face-to-face experience with discrimination based on sex," she says. "I think the women were angry about it and tried to change things, but a lot of our requests fell on deaf ears. Actually, it was a good education for me because in my personal life as a business lawyer, I haven't been surprised by unprofessional treatment of women. Upper management is predominantly male."

Despite Clarke's assistance and support, the battles were fierce between Fall and a College administration which she believed viewed women's athletics almost as a necessary evil. Money remained the central issue. It was not until Lelia Hynson, a member of the Board of Visitors and Governors and an active player in the struggle for women's sports at the College, stepped in and generously helped fund both the men's and women's crews that the women's athletic program gained its first varsity sport.

Mary Jane Eavenson '73 founded the women's crew club in 1972, after reading in *The New York Times* that several colleges in the East were starting up varsity women's crew teams. It was a novel idea, since WC had the facilities for the men's program largely in place, and most other sports were already available at least on the intramural level. However, Hynson's gifts enabled the club to make the jump to

varsity after the Athletic Council, an all-male committee, had initially blocked the move, citing lack of funds.

"We had about 20 women join in '72," Eavenson says. "We got a student [John Hill '75] to coach us that first year, we got a small budget, and became a member of the Women's Rowing Association. The men were very supportive, and let us use the facilities and equipment. I thought it was very complete."

By 1974, women's crew was officially recognized as WC's first women's varsity sport. Others followed quickly: tennis and volleyball in 1975, softball in 1978, lacrosse in 1982, field hockey and swimming in 1985.

Critical in the transition process was the acceptance of physical fitness as a health issue that was not gender specific. Aerobics, methods of physical training, jogging, and a general sense of health awareness escalated in the 1970s and 1980s, providing more encouragement for women to participate in athletics. The landmark Title IX ruling by the federal government provided the legal encouragement in 1972, demanding equality within the edu-

cial aid for women to go into physical education, or med school, or other areas that were male-dominated."

Most bothersome to Fall during the transition, and even today, is what she sees as a lack of respect for women's programs among the coaching and administrative hierarchy.

"Washington College is very male-dominated," she says. "And there are still pockets of resistance, particularly in athletics. I don't think that women are considered to be as serious or dedicated as the men. The odd part is that on the whole, a great deal of support



PHOTO: TED MATHIAS '84



cational setting, though its effects were not as strong at Washington College as many women would have liked. Still, women's athletics was changing.

"Until recently, women weren't brought up to be aggressive or competitive," says Karen Smith, who was hired as a physical education instructor in 1968. "Attitudes nationally have changed to reflect the view that being in shape is womanly."

"When I was growing up, to be an athlete was not considered feminine," Fall echoes. "There was also no finan-



has come from the women athletes' male peers, but there's still an underlying resentment among the older male establishment."

Diane Guinan, who joined the staff in 1984, agrees, attributing the inequi-



PHOTO TED MATHIAS



Clockwise from top: The first women's varsity sport, rowing, is still popular. Senior members of the 1989 volleyball team with Coach Penny Fall. Swimmer Kasey Carroll became WC's first female NCAA national competitor in 1987. Tracy Peel was a 1991 NCAA tennis semi-finalist. Coach Diane Guinan plans strategy at halftime.

ties to program development in addition to male and female stereotypes.

"It's more of a program development issue," she says. "As programs have the time to develop, it becomes easier to attract more dedicated athletes. Because men's programs have had that development period, they have a greater capacity to hire assistant

coaches because the greater alumni financial support allows funding from sources beyond the salary pool. Men's teams continue to have greater amounts of clothing and gear, and their fields and courts are set up for postseason championship play. This isn't true for field hockey, women's lacrosse, softball or volleyball."

Even today, much work remains to improve the women's playing field, which is unlevel in places. But the situation is at least better now than it was ten years ago. Until the women's lacrosse team became a reality in 1982, the women's field, which is separated from the College by railroad tracks, had produced nothing but corn. The College reaped annual yields from that field until Nancy Dick, who coached the fledgling lacrosse squad from 1982-86, joined a campaign to convince the College to cut the corn and allow local hauling firms to start filling the field for intercollegiate play.

Not only was the new field unlevel, but getting there was half the battle, since a 25-foot deep ravine separated it from the rest of campus.

"To get there you had to run down the bank and climb up the other side," Dick says. "The referees raised hell because of that; in fact they threatened not to do our games. I told them to put that in writing and send it to the College. The next spring, we had steps."

The steps were built by students, however, and not to code. Because they didn't overlap, players had to be careful not to put their feet through the gaps. "I lost two players to injuries because of those steps," says Dick.

A few years later, in the summer of 1989, a wooden pedestrian bridge spanning the ravine south of Kibler Field was installed. The bridge was the donation of Arthur H. Kudner, a College trustee emeritus.

The women's program received a boost in 1987 with the hiring of Geoff Miller as Athletic Director. It was Miller's decision to renovate the basement of the Cain Athletic Center, tearing down the wall that had separated the programs. Not until then had Washington College Athletics been, physically at least, coeducational.

"From the start, he stressed that we did not have a men's program or women's program," says Guinan, "but an athletic program that works to provide as many opportunities as possible for all sports."

"Geoff has been wonderful because he has a broad perspective," Dick says. "He is equally committed to varsity sports and rec sports, including as much of the student body as possible."

"We feel that we're treated equally now in athletics," says Kasey Carroll, a three-time All-American swimmer who has witnessed the birth of the men's swim program and is part of WC's second two-gender sport along with rowing. "It's taken awhile to get there, but the women athletes here have shown that they're not just trying to prove something, but setting their own goals."

So what about the next 100 years? Has WC been successful enough in its balancing act to enter a new era of equality in athletic accomplishments?

"We're on the right track," says Fall. "However, a number of coaches are still cemented to the old stereotypes, and until, in an interior, fundamental way, they realize that the athletic experience is just as important to women and that the same positive ends are necessary for them to live in the '90s, it won't change to the degree that it needs to change."

"Some of the staff have quickly and painlessly adjusted," Guinan says. "Some are new and were with the system as they came, and others are still trying to adapt. But things have come a long way in a positive direction. The biggest mistake would be to become content and stop the progress and growth."

Gary Brown is Washington College's sports information director.

Washington College's Renaissance Man Makes A Lasting Impression

by Marcia C. Landskroener

Photographs by J. M. Fragomeni '88

In contrast to the fast-paced schedule of classes, meetings, and deadlines, Washington College's O'Neill Literary House Pressroom is a sanctuary of calm, a soothing, naturally lighted space filled with solid reminders of the past and framed examples of what the time-worn antiquities saved from the scrap iron heap still can produce.

The back room of the College's literary center holds two miniature "parlor" presses from the Victorian era, two proof presses from the mid-20th century, and three platen letterpresses, the oldest of which dates back to 1903.

Demonstrating on these working dinosaurs, press master T. Michael Kaylor teaches students a dying craft while operating a professional print shop that he says strives to "preserve, restore, and create things of lasting beauty."

It is the philosophy by which T. Michael Kaylor lives as well.

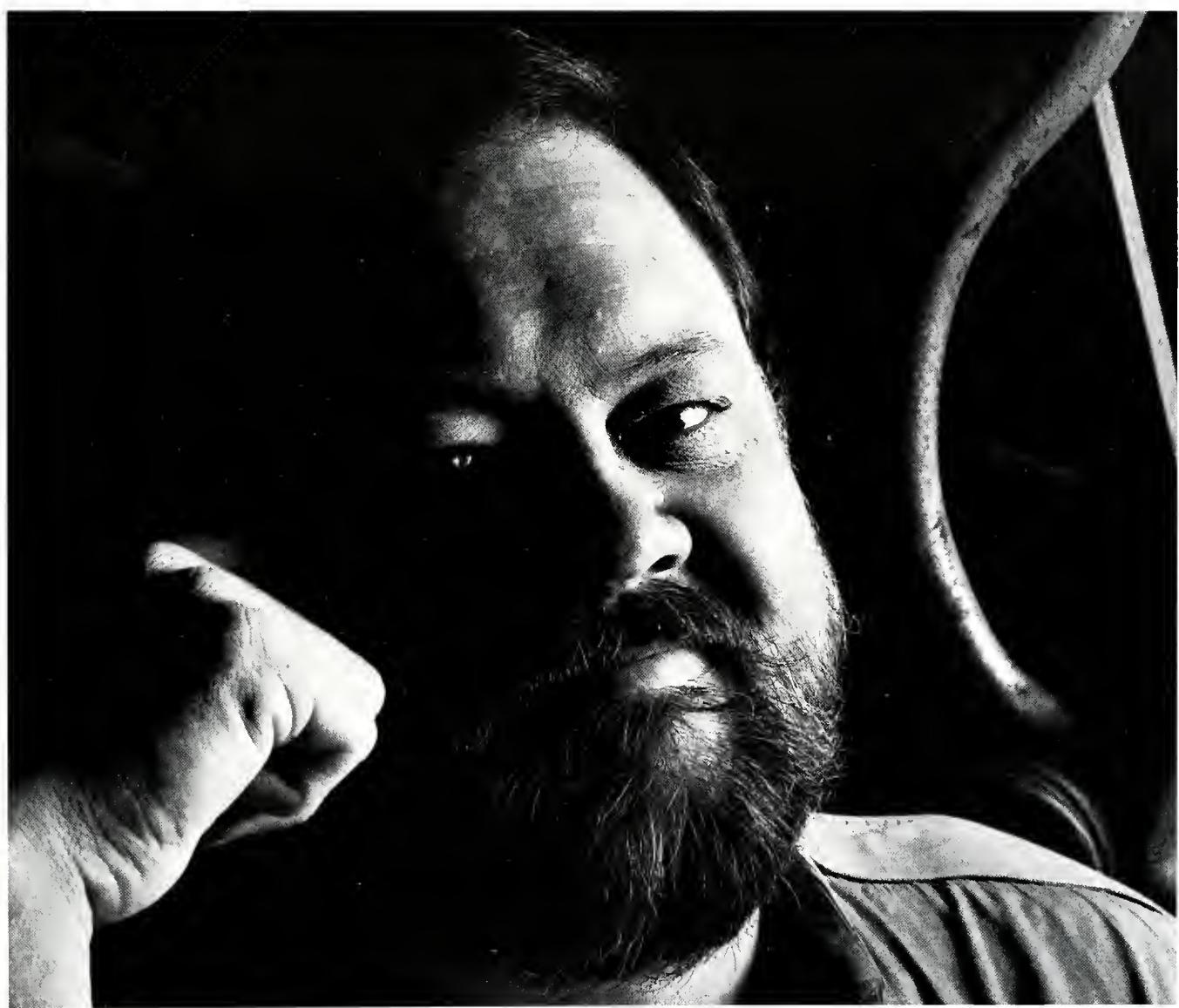
A gentle, well-read, teddy bear of a man who quotes poetry as easily as he repairs the gears on a letterpress, Mike Kaylor surrounds himself with things that give him pleasure. The former English and Japanese literature college professor, Sherlock Holmes aficionado, and participant in the 1981 World Conference pipesmoking competition in London is a collector of smoking pipes and teas, a keeper of bees and harvester of honey, a book arts historian with one of the largest collections of metal type and antique letterpresses. He collects books, whether for format or for content. He saves twigs and rubberbands. He salvages from the trash his students' first attempts at paste-printed and tie-dyed papers. Eventually he will make use of it all in the arts of printing and bookmaking.

Kaylor's love for books and his interest in printing are rooted in his childhood. "I remember realizing that one book was easier to read than another and wondering why — not having any idea about type, or the width of the line, or the kind of paper it was printed on, or how it was printed — but knowing intuitively, by physically handling them, that one book was easier to read than another, regardless of the story. The great thing was to find a good story in a nice-to-read format."

What irks Kaylor today is the glut of poorly-designed, badly-made books on the market. "My biggest peeve is with Penguin books — they have the greatest titles and they set the best typography in book printing today, but the books come apart in your hands. I hate that. Pages turn brown before you eyes. The cover falls off. That just drives me crazy."

Kaylor has placed a few items from

Letterpress printing may have gone the way of the cotton gin as publishers turned to faster, cheaper methods of printing, but it is enjoying a resurgence in small print shops around the country where time represents quality, not money. Although most of what the Literary House Press prints is ephemeral, says Kaylor, "we print it in such a way that it becomes collectible."



Mike Kaylor, bibliophile, literary scholar, designer, and master printer, strives to preserve both the tools and the art of printing. He is shown here with one of the prized antique letterpresses he hopes to refurbish and put to use.

his biggest collection of his earthly delights — that of eleven letterpresses and 500 cases of type — into service in the Literary House Pressroom, but the rest is crammed into a rented garage in downtown Chestertown. The two Victorian parlor presses — one a Christmas gift and another picked up at the Crumpton auction for \$20 — and the two newspaper proof presses in the Literary House Pressroom are from his collection. Among his treasures in storage is a rare brass-armed, foot-treadled Gordon press built in the 1870s. He purchased the antique letterpress from a Dover, Delaware, woman in her 90s who had been printing since the age of 17. She told Kaylor that her husband, who was some years older, had purchased it used in 1906.

"One day I would like to have a working museum for all my presses," he says. He wants to move his collection "just one more time" to a permanent location "where people could visit and see things being produced, where I could take job work and employ students, and where I could do this work — make things by hand."

On a smaller scale, the O'Neill Literary House Press is a working museum in its own right, and Kaylor and Literary House Director Bob Day have ambitions for it as well. "We're trying to become a small publishing house to do titles that might otherwise not be printed," Kaylor says. "Most colleges that have this kind of equipment have it in an art department and do what they call fine art printing. We are fairly unique among colleges in that this is strictly a literary press. We don't do art *per se*, we do printing."

Letterpress printing at newspaper companies and large publishing houses may have gone the way of the cotton gin as publishers turned to faster, cheaper methods of printing, but it is enjoying a resurgence in small print shops around the country where time represents quality, not money. That commitment to the craft is evident at the College's own small press shop. The broadsides, cards, and posters produced here were hand-set a letter at a time, each sheet of fine quality paper hand-fed to the platen press that imprints the carefully-crafted words. Although most of what the Literary House Press prints is ephemeral, says Kaylor, "we print it in such a way that it becomes collectible."

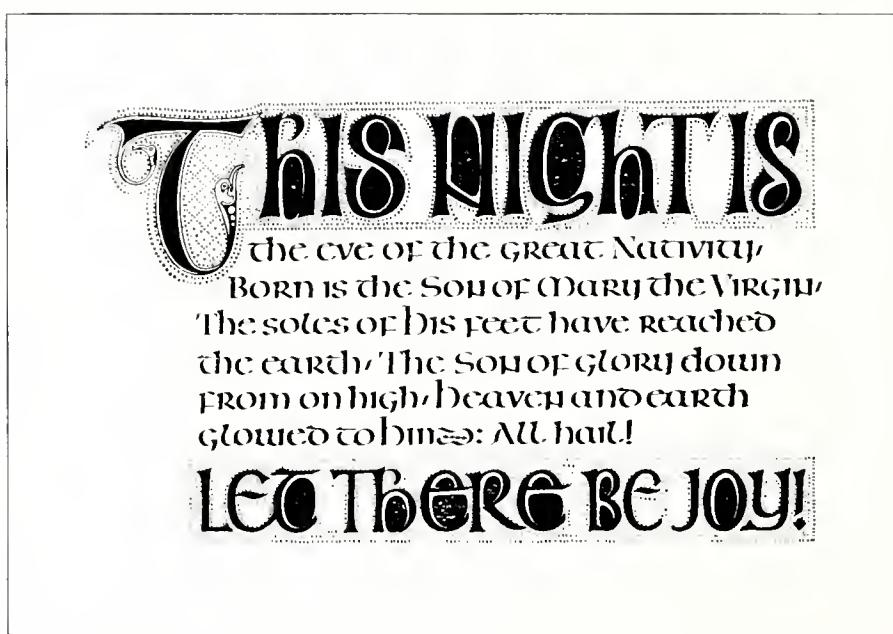
He points to Kathy Wagner's poem

"Taking the Boat Downriver" which was printed in honor of the College's 1782 Society, poems by Mary D. Wood '68 and Chappie Bowie '75 printed as part of a series of Alumni Broadsides, a series of Writers Union bookmarks, a series of Notes from the American West postcards, a poster announcing Howard Nemerov's reading with a quotation from the poet laureate's poem, and commemorative posters of Richard Wilbur poems printed for Douglass and Libby Cater.

Kaylor frequently is gratified to see the limited edition poems and cards

from Washington College. And it's about our house. The Admissions Office gives them to English teachers and guidance counselors all up and down the East Coast. We've been in the business not only of fine printing but of spreading the name of Washington College. We find the two — telling the College's story and printing good stuff — go hand in hand."

The role of the Literary House Press as a genuine small press is expanding this year with plans for three chapbooks. Projects in the works include publication of a Goldstein Program in



printed on the letterpress adorn the homes and offices of friends. It wasn't until recently, however, that he learned his handiwork was being offered for resale — he spotted a set of seven menu cards he printed for a dinner meeting of the Friends of Irene Adler (a group of Sherlock Holmes mystery buffs) at the Phoenix Club at Harvard University a few years ago recently offered in a New York bookshop for \$100.

"A recent prize for us is the O'Neill Literary House poster with a quotation by Bill Stafford," says Bob Day. "To me, that is the perfect kind of project for us because it serves so many purposes. It is an example of fine printing done by students under Mr. Kaylor's direction. It is a lovely example of cooperative work within the College — the linoleum cut of the house was done by a student, Becca Hutchinson '91. The poet we quoted, William Stafford, holds an honorary degree

Public Affairs lecture presented last November by Fred Whitehead, a collection of oral folk tales, and a memorial tribute to Ed Ruhe, a teacher and writer at the University of Kansas.

Dan Premo, political science professor and curator of the Goldstein Program, expects Whitehead's paper on the history of radical politics in America will be the first in a series of Goldstein lectures to be published by the O'Neill Literary House Press. Whitehead, a teaching associate at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, has written extensively on the radical tradition. "This was an original scholarly contribution prepared especially for the inauguration of the Goldstein program," says Premo, "and there is not a lot written about the early radical period of American history. We thought it was of sufficient quality and of interest to the students that it should be preserved."

Another Press project will be a trib-

ute to Stanley Vansant, a Rock Hall waterman who was probably one of the most famous bateau builders on the northern shores of the Chesapeake Bay. Vansant, who operated a boatyard on Long Cove, Piney Neck, died last year.

Tom McHugh, a former Washington College professor who now teaches at Vassar College and spends his summers on the Eastern Shore, began collecting Vansant's stories on tape several years ago. In addition to Vansant's recollections of growing up and working on this tiny spit of land,

its winter berth at Vansant's boatyard.

This project represents a turning point in the evolution of the Literary House Press, says Kaylor, who is designing the book and overseeing the printing of 1,000 copies for release at the Tea Party Festival next May.

Because the Literary House Press has primarily job type — a variety of small quantities of type — and not book type — large quantities of a few font types — the actual typesetting of these chapbooks will be farmed out to a type foundry that will then return the job to the Press for printing. After

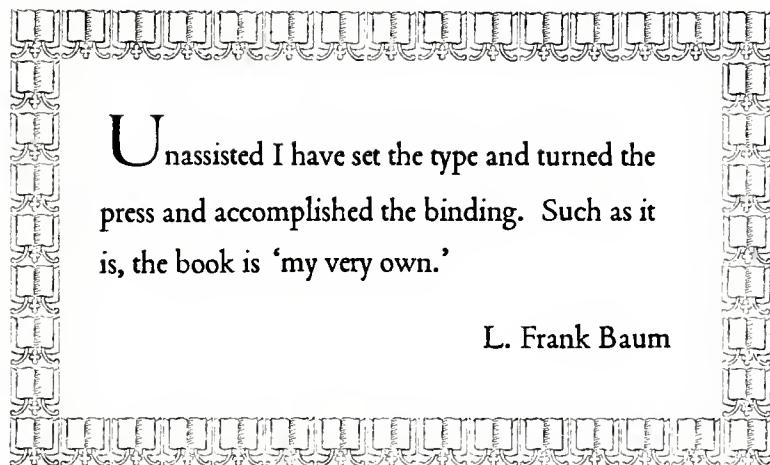
the books are printed, the type will be distributed in the Literary House Press type cases. "The idea is to get the type in our cases for future jobs," says Kaylor.

Kaylor's own business, Inklings, is picking up momentum as his designs gain recognition in the world of small presses. He does free-lance design and press work for clients with hired student help on the presses. From letterhead for faculty, to brochures for Church Hill Theatre, to Christmas cards for a New York-based publishing company, Kaylor accepts jobwork to keep the presses cranking.

Thomas Cahill, president of the publishing company that sells Kaylor-designed cards and broadsides, came down from New York and spent three days with Kaylor and his students. As a result of that visit, Cahill offered for sale several items printed at the Literary House Press, and had some nice things to say about Washington College.

He wrote in his catalog: "The Literary House at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, is one of the most sublimely gracious habitations in the United States." Kaylor concurs. "It is. It is a very gracious place, given to us by a very gracious lady. [College Trustee] Betty Casey [47] has supported us over the years, and we do work that reflects that."

Kaylor also has designed and printed cards for the publishing company Bookperson. The Metropolitan Museum of Art has expressed interest in having Kaylor produce a card for them, and he is working on a Christmas card with a quotation from "Hamlet" for the Folger Shakespeare Library.



Samples of Kaylor's handiwork include a Christmas card printed for the past five years for Cahill & Co., and a post card from the Literary House Press's series of quotes by and about writers and printers. Kaylor, left, founder of the Sussex Apiculture Society, compares himself to Sherlock Holmes who retired to Sussex to "study and bee farming."

Printing Terms In Our Lexicon

courtesy of T. Michael Kaylor

Mind your p's and q's: The term originated because metal type is set upside down and printers had to be careful not to confuse the two letters.

Upper case and lower case: Direct reference to letters found in different type cases. Capital letters are kept in the upper case, the others, because they are used more often, are kept closer to the printer's reach in the lower cases.

Lock up a job: In the final step before printing a page, a plate of metal type is "locked up" with "furniture," blocks of wood of different sizes, within a frame.

Out of sorts: Each letter of type is "sorted" or distributed within a type case. A typesetter, who was paid by the page and not by the hour, would gripe that the fellow who ran the press was holding him up (and costing him money) when the letters he needed for another job were being used already and he ran "out of sorts."

the book will include an article about Vansant and the Eastern Shore that Bob Day wrote for the *Washington Post Sunday Magazine*, and Kathy Wagner's poem about returning the Vansant-built boat she and Day own to

This is the work he thrives on — creating and printing his own designs. He is especially proud of a card he printed in honor of his daughter's fifth birthday. Katie was born on Halloween. This children's poem about "Five Little Pumpkins" was perhaps one of the most difficult printing jobs he has done because of the color breaks.

Kaylor, a father of two who turned 40 in October, gave up the offset aspect of his printing business several years ago. "I worked as an offset printer for many years," he says. "I ran an in-house printshop at a hospital in Easton, and I had my own offset business here in Chestertown. But I always loved letterpress because I like to work by hand, to actually be able to hold the type and assemble them in a certain way, to feel the impression of type in the paper. Much of the work as an offset printer is repeat work — billheads and forms. There's not the same satisfaction as making something yourself, feeding the machine by hand, folding the paper by hand."

"My mentors in this are [19th century writers] William Morris and John Ruskin," he continues. (Ruskin once wrote: "Life without industry is guilt, industry without art is brutality.") "They are the inspiration for me to produce this way. I try to convey that same idea to my students — that it is important to create something from yourself, to find joy in the work of your hands."

Kaylor's work with students also emphasizes "the literary tradition of writers as printers and printers as writers," which Bob Day says he and Kathy Wagner hoped to revive at Washington College with that first Chandler & Price letterpress, a gift to the College in 1986 from Marshall Ackerman.

"Mark Twain was a printer, Virginia Woolf was a printer — and a left-handed one at that, which made it very difficult for her," Day says. "We felt that students who wanted to print

their own words should have the opportunity to do so in that traditional way. You learn something different about poetry and about the craft of prose if you have to set it by hand," he says. "You're much more careful."

A favorite writer/printers of Kaylor's



"Is it possible for us to design a piece in such a way that we actually enhance the writer's meaning? What can we do to help us see a deeper beauty in the words and the author's thought through the beauty and form of the words themselves?"

is Walt Whitman, who hand-set most of *Leaves of Grass* himself. "It was the only way he could get it published," Kaylor says.

Kaylor's weekly printing workshops introduce students to the printing and bookmaking arts and get students in-

volved with current Press projects. He also offers workshops in bookbinding and paper marbling.

Senior Raphael Koster, a Writers Union member who has been involved in publishing two campus literary magazines and who has been through the letterpress training, says Kaylor's weekly workshops are not limited strictly to printing.

"We learn a lot about design and laying out a page — we learn why a page looks good. In conjunction with setting type, we learn about book binding, paper marbling, and book arts in general. And we learn about the development of the English language, literary history, books, calligraphy, scroll-work — Mike is so knowledgeable about so many things."

During one workshop, Kaylor talks about how the shapes and forms of letters can affect the meaning of the words. He asks his students: "Is it possible for us to design a piece in such a way that we actually enhance the writer's meaning? What can we do to help us see a deeper beauty in the words and the author's thought through the beauty and form of the words themselves?"

"Part of the philosophy of my class is to put people in touch with what it has taken to get words into print," says Kaylor. "We study the origin of the alphabet and look at the forms of non-Roman alphabets — Hebrew and Chinese and Japanese — to help us see anew the forms of our own letters."

Kaylor permits nothing to be rushed in the Literary House pressroom — not the run of bookplates he hopes to have in bookstores for the

Christmas season nor the dispensing of the Prince of Wales tea steeping in the cobalt blue teapot he serves to his workshop students along with a generous plate of cookies. Teaching takes time and patience, and Kaylor has both.

ALUMNI REPORTER

WC Athletic Hall of Fame Inducts Seven

Six former sports greats joined Washington College's Athletic Hall of Fame in October. Inductees were Jennifer Butler '79, Jim Chalfant '67, Allan D. Eisel '66, Elton Louis "Ace" Wilmont '38, and the late J. Warren Carey '33 and Dick Gamber '34. H. Hurt Deringer '59 was also inducted for his role in supporting and promoting Washington College sports in the media.

Jennifer Butler, a pilot for USAir, became Washington College's third female inductee. She was a four-sport athlete, earning four letters in volleyball, three in softball, and one each in tennis and rowing.

Butler co-captained the 1977 Washington College volleyball team that finished second in the Middle Atlantic Conference Tournament and posted a 33-10 overall record. She also co-captained the 1978 team that went 20-11. The '77 squad was honored in a special ceremony during the banquet.

Chalfant, an account manager for Occidental Chemical Corporation in Ohio, was one of the finest lacrosse players ever to play at Washington College. He was first team All-American midfielder in 1967 and a member of a squad that ranked fifth nationally in all divisions. Chalfant, who scored

27 goals that year, was a key to the success of the '67 group.

Allan D. Eisel, an English teacher, was a four-year letterman in soccer, basketball and baseball. He was a full-back on the soccer squad that went 11-1 and received an invitation to the NCAA Tournament. On the diamond, he led the 1965 team in hitting with an average of .311, then batted .475 to lead the '66 club that posted a school-best .306 team batting average.

Wilmot, retired from Anaconda Corporation, excelled in football and basketball. He guided the Shoremen cagers to a 49-26 record during his four-year tenure, capped by a 15-6 campaign during his senior season.

Carey, who had a long and distinguished career at Allied Chemical, was a great pitcher. After college he went on to play semi-pro ball in the Blue Ridge League and tried out with the Philadelphia A's. Carey's greatest collegiate win, in 1933, was a 4-1 victory over the great Quantico Marines team. WC played the Marines near the

season's end as they sported a win record of 30-odd straight against the best collegiate teams in the country.

Gamber, who was an insurance executive in Baltimore, won 11 letters in football, lacrosse and basketball. He was a four-year starter as an end on the gridiron, and captained the team during his senior season. In 1933, Gamber was a second-team selection on the Baltimore *Evening Sun's* All-State team. He was a three-time Honorable Mention All-Maryland midfielder on the Shoremen lacrosse team and a second team all-league guard in basketball in 1933. He was awarded the Simpers Medal for best all-around athlete at Washington College as a junior.

Deringer, editor and publisher of the *Kent County News* and a college sports enthusiast since his youth, was this year's Special Inductee. Throughout the years he has chronicled the history of Washington College sports and marked the achievements of Washington College players.



Gathering before the Hall of Fame induction were (front): emcee Chris Ely '70 and inductees Jennifer Butler '79, Hurt Deringer '59, (back) Jim Chalfant '67, and Allan Eisel '66.

Alumnae Discuss Women's Experience At WC

During Fall Weekend, the Alumni Association sponsored a symposium entitled "100 Years of Coeducation: We've Come A Long Way, Alumnae!"

Panel members explored how the educational, professional, and social expectations of women at Washington College have changed over the years. Lucille Sansing, associate dean of the College and professor of sociology, moderated.

What emerged was the sense that women, in general, have always been intellectually challenged at Washington College and have taken from their experience here a feeling of assurance and self-worth. Their social experience on campus has always been a microcosm of the culture of the times. The panel, representing eight decades, concluded that there has been a continuity of women's experiences from 1920 through 1990, but the language of the women's movement, which was defined in the 1960s, radically altered women's expectations and their perspective of this common experience.

Following are some paraphrased comments from the panelists.

In 1921, when Dorothy Woodall Myers '24 started college, there were 25 girls and 100 boys on campus, though they were not allowed to be alone in one place together. Girls took home economics and planned to become nurses, teachers, or librarians. They were thrilled to play basketball with the boys, by boys' rules. This was before sexual discrimination was a part of our cultural lexicon. "We got married first, then lived together. Grass was mowed, and coke was a cold drink. This was certainly not before the differences in sexes, but long before the term sexual politics."

Hilda Micari '38, retired manager of Western Electric Co., described "the bad old days" of the Depression when people were starving and committing suicide rather than ask for public assistance. "In keeping with the times, we were serious and responsible students who came for the sole purpose of learning. We knew that our parents were sacrificing a great deal to send us to college. We never challenged our parents or our professors. When four women in my freshman class were told to sit in the back of Dean Jones' math class, we suspected it was be-

cause he didn't want to be tempted to look up our skirts."

Dorothy Leonard '41, retired after 41 years in education, knew exactly what she wanted to do when she came to Washington College. "Washington College prepared me well for my career as a teacher and principal. Women students were less successfully prepared in the social graces. Each spring, Dean Bradley called all the girls together to tell them about the birds and the bees. It wasn't until considerably later that many of us learned that she had left out the good part. If a gentleman came into the women's dormitory he announced himself by shouting "Man on the Hall." We were so stupid that we would run back into our rooms."

Bobbi Delaney Turk '55, a psychotherapist and columnist for the *Baltimore Sun*, remembers being frightened her first night away from her Manhattan home. "Alone in Reid Hall, I kept hearing this low noise, and it turned out to be cows mooing behind the dorm. Women were locked into the dorms at 7:00 p.m. on weeknights and I remember dorm mothers like jailers carrying rings of jangling keys up and down the hall. On the other side of Route 213, the other two-thirds of the student body, men, had no restrictions." While she never felt any prejudice from her professors, she recalled that one classmate who wanted to be a medical doctor was persuaded to enter the more womanly field of education.

Linda Towne Cades '68, Director of the Center for Career Development at WC, represented the most eventful decade. The campus of the early 1960s was not much different from that of the 1920s and 1930s. Women were still safe and protected on their side of the demarcation line which was Route 213. It was in the mid-1960s when the revo-

lution came to Chestertown that the women were finally granted the keys to their dormitory. "Once women had keys, they could control their own lives. Soon after, with the introduction of the Pill, women were also given more responsibility."

Cades found upon graduation that all job interviews for women included a typing test. Many chose to attend graduate school to remain in the world of intellectual challenge.

Verna Wilkins Hensley '79, press secretary and chief spokesperson for Senator William Roth, recalled the 1970s when Washington College was both respected as a liberal arts college and reputed as a big "party school." Women quickly had to decide which of the college's offerings appealed most. Though women in the 1970s still expected to get married and have a family, they also were the first to realize that women, married or no, could not depend on a husband's care and should prepare to take care of herself. By the end of the 1970s there were no social restrictions for women or men.

In 1982, Arlene Lee Hawkridge became the first president of the SGA. Now a lawyer, she feels that, academically, women were treated equally with men, but society on campus remained male-dominated. Weekend life revolved around fraternity parties and men's sports. Women of the 1980s were first to talk about date rape. The panel agreed the women of the 1980s were probably not the first to experience it, but they were the first to confront it and to include it in their vocabularies.

Current bios of the class of 1982 reveal that these women have successfully broken gender barriers by pursuing traditional male careers, though the men of this class have not pioneered into traditional women's roles.

Kathy Brewster '92, a senior biology major, said that date rape and gender equity in athletics are still the prime issues among Washington College women of the 1990s. Brewster told Micari that women, by choice, now fill the front row seats of every classroom. She responded to Turk that it is now socially unacceptable for women to leave their dorms before 10 p.m. She concluded that the undergraduate experience of today's women is what each woman chooses to make of it.



Panelists (clockwise) Brewster '91, Sansing, Micari '38, Cades '68, Myers '24, Hensley '79, Leonard '41, Turk '55, and Hawkridge '82.



Scott Hansen '82 (D.C.), Arlene Lee Hawkridge '82 (Kent & Queen Anne's), and Phil Heaver '83 (Philadelphia), took part in the Alumni Council Retreat's President's Lunch for the Alumni Chapter presidents. Other Chapter Presidents are Tom Tansi '87 (Boston), Franci Burnet '84 and Bill Mortimer '82 (New York), Rich Denison '78 (Baltimore), Glen Beebe '81 (South Jersey), and Lou Smith '49 (Mardel).



The Kent and Queen Anne's Alumni Chapter Flea Market brought hundreds of buyers and browsers to campus, including Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefer, Chestertown Mayor Elmer Horsey, and Ralph Thornton '40 with his pal Mikey. Proceeds benefited the chapter's scholarship fund.



Eleven foursomes teed off at the second annual Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament at Turf Valley in Ellicott City, MD, on October 4. Alumni, here addressed by tournament champ Chuck Trout, played 18 holes to benefit the Johnson Lifetime Fitness Center.



Pictured September 14th at the All-Alumni Reunion at the Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford, PA, are (left to right): Peggy '46 and Dick Steffens '43, Tammy Tiebel '86, Vicky Tague '84, Jamie Wyeth's pig, Tom Tague '85, Amy Tiebel '91, Phil Heaver '83, and Jack Barnes '47.

CLASS NOTES

'24 Helen Mills Johnston, 91, is living in Hermitage on the Eastern Shore in Onancock, VA.

'29 Miriam E. White is living in Glen Arbor, a small retirement home in Baltimore. She recently took courses in drama and opera at a nearby Senior Center. Miriam writes, "I am eagerly looking forward to the Monet exhibit coming to the Baltimore Museum and remembering the delightful courses Dr. Esther Dole taught in art history. Dr. Dole was pure joy and stimulated my lifetime interest in the fine arts."

'35 Harry Rhodes of Queenstown, MD, has been named treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Memorial Hospital at Easton.

'38 Margaret Walters Carroll, who enjoys traveling, recently visited Nova Scotia and New Orleans.

'41 Anne Turner Landry sold her house in Worton, MD, and will move to Severna Park in late December. Getting rid of all her excess belongings has been fun, she says.

'55 Rose Mary Hatem Bonsack, a physician and mother of five, is a member of the House of Delegates, Maryland General Assembly. Her oldest is a 1980 WC graduate; the youngest is a junior at WC.

June Walls Tassell and her husband, Harold, are retired in Topsail Beach, NC. The University of North Carolina at Wilmington is just 25 miles away and there are many courses available of interest to them. They are planning an auto trip to the western states next spring.

'62 George L. Raine has earned a second doctorate, in philosophy, from Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI. He earned his first doctorate, in psychology, from the University of Tennessee in 1976. He is in private practice, seeing both adults and children, in North East, MD.

'64 Glen Gaumnitz is in private prac-

tice in marriage and individual counseling in the Catonsville area of Baltimore.

'65 John Boddie is the owner of Unusual Software in Newark, DE. He is also a published author and columnist.

'68 Julia White McLean is the Science Laboratory Director at Ingleside School in Norfolk, VA. She has been the chief lobbyist for the American Federation of Teachers/Virginia for the past four years and for Fairfax County, VA, in 1991. Julie received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching for the State of Virginia in 1991 and won the Norfolk Public School's Good Apple Award and a School Bell Award in 1990-91.

Woody and Jeanette Shipway Snyder write that since they went through WC on scholarships they are very proud to be funding a scholarship for other students. Jeanette is a technical analyst on the installation of a computer financial package at ICI. The Snyders, who enjoy sailing, recently purchased a summer home on Stoney Creek on the Patapsco River to be closer to their beloved Chesapeake Bay.

'70 Chris Ely, a weekend sportscaster for WJZ-TV in Baltimore and part-time coordinator in the Orioles public relations office, served as public address announcer for the final major league baseball game at Memorial Stadium. Rex Barney, the voice of Memorial Stadium for 22 years, had to miss the final game because of illness.

'72 Lynn Leonhardt Mielke, an attorney, and Cynthia Bevier Saunders '68, have formed Chesapeake Mediation Center in Easton, MD. The Center is an alternative dispute resolution mechanism in divorce and custody matters.

Loretta M. West is active in Framingham, MA, as president of her Neighborhood Association and treasurer of the Insurance Women's Association. The former focuses on environmental issues, the latter on education.

'73 Manson Chisholm is captain of the Chesapeake Flyer, a 50-foot catamaran that runs between Rock Hall, St. Michaels, Annapolis and Baltimore. He ferries tourists and commuters across the Bay.

'75 Peter and Sue Dix Fitzgerald and Jo Henry Pion '76 attended the Alumni Gala at the Brandywine Museum. Sally Gray Rogers '75 watched the three Fitzgerald children while Sue & Fitz partied. The Fitzgeralds attended Robin Cline's '76 wedding and they saw Ben Fitzgerald '77 this summer at his home in Santa Barbara, CA.

'76 Jo Henry Pion has two young children and works part-time as a CPA.

'79 Roseann Gies Brown is employed by the Hoppmann Corporation of Chantilly, VA, as a data processing manager.

Marian Cooper Molinaro and her husband, Tom, moved to Chevy Chase, MD.

Lisa J. Durban has a 4-year-old daughter,

Corrections

The story "Coeducation and the Changing Role of Women at WC" published in the Fall 1991 issue stated that the Senior Women's Honor Society was established at Washington College by Maggie Horsley, Nancy Tatum, and Bob Kirkwood. It was not Kirkwood, but the late Guy F. Goodfellow who helped establish the group. And Kirkwood was Dean from 1959 until 1966, not a professor of English.

In the Annual Report: the late Wilbur P. Barnes '49 should have been included with the list of Lifetime Fitness Center Contributors and with the 1782 Founder's Club list. And Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Micari '40 '58 were incorrectly listed with the 1782 Founder's Club. They should have been listed with the George Washington Society. We apologize for the errors.

Amy, works full-time as the supervisor of the Epidemiology Lab at the University of Virginia Hospital, and is enrolled full-time in the Masters in Hospital Epidemiology program at the same hospital. Lisa would like to hear from classmate Lisa Thiermann.

Holly Craighead Hardcastle teaches English, writing, and reading at middle school through college levels and is a private tutor. Holly is also involved with graduate school.

Margaret Stevens Jacks practices law in Baltimore, concentrating in commercial, corporate and securities law. She and Tad, her husband of 9 years, have a daughter, Amy, who is 19 months old.

Dottie Medicus lives in Long Branch, NJ, and works for the Army at Ft. Monmouth.

Margaret George Quimby is a psychiatric nurse at the Queen Anne's County Mental Health Clinic in Centreville, MD.

Sarah Farace Taylor is taking a year's leave of absence from her job as manager of Government Relations for C & P Telephone Co. of Maryland to be with her new daughter (see Births). Sarah would love to hear from any classmates in the Ellicott City area.

Jacqueline Rowland Vaughn is an attorney with the Health Care Financing Administration in Baltimore. She has an 11-year-old son, Christopher.

'80 John Nunn is the assistant public defender in Queen Anne's County, MD. He and his wife, Nancy Kostar '79, live in Worton, MD, with their daughter, Jesse.

Joy Chamberlain Wemmer is enjoying working out of her home in Ithaca, NY, as

an educational consultant for Discovery Toys, while raising her three children. Joy and her new daughter visited Lisa Gunnin Gallagher '81 and her new daughter in Ocean City, MD, this past summer.

'81 John C. Lonnquest was awarded a Master of Arts degree in history from Duke University on December 30, 1990.

Tim Norris is a stockbroker at Payne Weber in Baltimore, MD. Tim, along with John Tansey '73, Dick Wunderlich '67 and Jon Price '80, was a member of the Golf Gang that planned the Alumni and Friends Golf Tournaments at Turf Valley Golf Club in Ellicott City, MD.

'82 Susan James Chandler does commissioned pastel portraits and paintings from her studio in western Howard County, MD. Her husband is building a contemporary structure that will house a larger studio space for her to paint and teach classes. This year Susan has started her second business as a technical writing/proposal managing consultant, specializing in APD and DOD system manuals.

William B. Gerwig III is a partner in the law firm of Bowles, Rice, McDavid, Graff & Love in Charleston, WV, and is president of Kanawha Valley Property Investments Inc. Bill and his wife have renovated an historic building in downtown Charleston and opened the area's largest antique store.

Jonathan Green is living in Catonsville, MD, with his wife, Dian. He is an industrial realtor working in the Baltimore-Washington region.

Kimberly Harquail received her MS in Information Management from George



Bah! Humbug!



Feeling Scrooged? Has your total income for the year, including bonuses and sales of appreciated property, pushed your tax bill up in the stratosphere? Why not give yourself a present this holiday season by donating securities to Washington College, which will save you tax dollars. Gifts of appreciated property like stocks will enable you to avoid paying the capital gains tax (for most individuals 28-35% tax on appreciation), and the entire current value of the security may be deducted when computing your income tax.

For example, a gift of stock worth \$10,000 whose original purchase was \$2500 means a savings of \$2,800 in income tax, \$750 state tax (Maryland residents example), and also the avoidance of \$2,475 in capital gains tax. That's a big tax savings.

Your gift enables Washington College to maintain the "margin of excellence" by providing student scholarships, attracting a top-notch faculty, and keeping our library and laboratories filled with the latest books and technology. For large gifts the Board of Visitors and governors has established guidelines for the creation of endowed scholarships and faculty chairs, library book funds, named lecture funds and student prizes.

To learn more about the joy of giving, contact Martin Williams in the Office of Planned Giving, 1-800-422-1782 ext. 398.

Merry Christmas!

Washington University in 1989 and is employed as a Staff Analyst at ARINC Research Corporation in Annapolis, MD.

Alumni who studied in Oxford reunited to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the exchange program. Guest of honor was Michael Hill (front and center), former music tutor and acting principal of Manchester College.

Births

Frances Kelly Mudd '74, a daughter, Catherine Page Maitland, on July 23, 1991. She joins brother Edward, 5.

Susan Farace Taylor '79, a daughter, Sarah Kate, on August 27, 1991.

Joy Chamberlain Wemmer '80, a daughter, Megan Elizabeth, on February 28, 1991. Megan joins two brothers.

Lizabeth Strohecker O'Mahoney '80, a son, Michael James, on August 4, 1991.

Karen Booth Orr '80, a son, Nicholas Leeds, on May 21, 1991.

Lisa Gunning Gallagher '81, a daughter, Courtney Lee, on February 19, 1991.

Tim Norris '81, a son, Gavin Patrick, on September 5, 1991. Gavin joins brother Brandon, 5, and sister, Molly, 2.

Nanette Bouline Holmes is a labor-delivery nurse at Kent General Hospital in Dover, DE, and is working towards a degree in midwifery.

Joseph L. Holt, former assistant to the commissioner of the Social Security Administration and former director of Chesapeake College's student advising and testing services, is now executive assistant to the president of Washington College.

Margaret Chatfield Howard and her family have moved to Northglenn, CO. They all love the West and she would like to get in touch with any alumni in the Denver area. Margaret is working as a teacher at the Northglenn Early Childhood Center.

Kathleen Tynan is a computer analyst at Lazaid Freres and Company in New York.

Beth Glascock Wyrough '82, a son, Richard R. Coleman, on May 5, 1991.

Stephen Frailer '84, a daughter, Rebecka, in April, 1991.

Richard '83 and Betsy Casey '86 Grieves, a daughter, Elizabeth Katherine, on September 8, 1991.

Marriages

Mackey Metcalfe Streit '51 to Frederick O. Dutton III, on August 17, 1991.

Nina C. Casey '84 to W. Thomas Sinnott IV, on July 13, 1991. Betsy Casey Grieves '86 was matron of honor.

Cynda Hill '85 to Horace Wood, on August 24, 1991. Lynda Hill '86 was maid of honor for her sister. Attending the wedding were Anne Snyder '86, Mary Beth Walker '85, Laura Caldwell '85, and Melissa Coombs '85.

Lincoln Karnoff '86 to Laura Graper on June 8, 1991.

Lauren Rogers Stevens '88 to Barton Stanford Robins on June 23, 1991.

Kay Montgomery '88 to Jamieson P. Knopf on May 18, 1991. Sarah Dunning '88 and Liz Whelan '88 were in the wedding. Attending were Sherri Duffield '88, Anne Johnson '88, Kristen Kosac '88, Michelle Robinson '88, Alden Caldwell '88, Tom Gaines '86 and Mark Darwin '86.

Jane F. Gillern '89 to Frederic N. Cross '86 on September 28, 1991.

Melanie Wade '89 to Richard Wing on August 3, 1991. Peter Mendivil '88 was an usher.

Rina M. Nielsen '90 to Gregory M. Terry '90 on June 15, 1991. Petra Fajerson '91 and Jennifer Mauser '91 were bridesmaids. Vicco von Voss '91 was an usher.

Pennsylvania. He is living in Philadelphia.

Jenna Maher Silliman has two children, ages four and one, and is a legal assistant in Philadelphia.

'86 Joan Miller Burke lives in the San Francisco area and works at Apple Computer as a software usability test engineer conducting human factor research. Joan and her husband, Gene, a Navy helicopter pilot, will be moving to Virginia Beach in early 1992. Joan also expects to receive her MA in psych. research from San Francisco State in December 1991.

Linda Kennedy spent June traveling around Europe and visiting with WC librarian Jeff Chaffin in Rome. Linda has started law school at Vermont Law School where (small world department) a classmate is Ann Deppman, granddaughter of the late WC president Joe McLain.

Kathleen O'Donnell, formerly a development staffer for The Benedictine School Foundation in Ridgely, MD, joined Washington College's development office as assistant director in late September.

Army Spec. Kevin M. Schultz was decorated with the Meritorious Service Medal after serving in Saudi Arabia.

During Alumni Fall Weekend, a new rowing shell, the Don Chatellier, was dedicated to the long-time rowing coach. The pair shell is the gift of Whitney Maroney '91 (shown standing next to Coach Chatellier).



'87 Cindy Prettyman is living in Rehoboth Beach, DE, and helping to manage her family-owned restaurants and bars.

'89 John Macielag is a financial consultant with Merrill Lynch in Baltimore.

Tim Rohs received his MA in Counseling Psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University in August 1991.

Jennifer Vervier is enrolled in the Master's Program in Applied Ethics at Colorado State University. She says she had intended specializing in Environmental Ethics but is now "leaning towards something even less practical, in the vein of Alasdair MacIntyre's *After Virtue*, so similar to Dr. Scholz's Humanities courses, I love it!"

Cynthia Keighton MA '89 has been promoted to State Director, Children's Choice of Delaware, Inc. Children's Choice is a private, non-profit foster care agency which recruits and trains foster families to care for

foster children throughout Delaware.

'90 Mary Lee Barry is working towards certification in Early Childhood Education.

Rob Dinker has joined the Morgan Financial Group in Baltimore with president George Buckless '69, Jack Bacon '52, and Paul Baker '60.

Jennifer L. Holden is teaching fifth grade at Centreville (MD) Middle School.

Vincent Maximo is working for MBNA America Corp., Visa, and Mastercard, based in Newark, DE. He is also studying for the LSAT with hopes of entering law school.

'91 Deanna Houle is attending law school at the University of Baltimore.

Samantha Streamer is working at Dundalk Community College in the Writing Center and the Development Education Program. She will attend graduate school next fall.

Jesse James Coop 1902-1991

Dr. Jesse J. Coop, educator and scientist, died August 29 at the age of 88. He was professor of physics at Washington College from 1930 until 1943.

He gave up teaching in Chestertown to work for the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. While there, he demonstrated the feasibility of helicopter sonar for use in anti-submarine warfare. From 1948 until 1963 he continued his research at the Naval Air Development Center's anti-submarine warfare laboratories, where he received a patent on the miniature sonobuoy.

He lived with his wife of 61 years, Thelma, in Willow Grove, PA. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, four grandchildren, and a sister.

Deaths

M. Louise Dickinson '11 of Newark, DE, died September 11, 1991. Dickinson did graduate work at Columbia University and Sullins College (VA) and taught social studies at two junior high schools in the Wilmington, DE, area for 49 years. She leaves no survivors.

J. Kenneth Stewart '26 of Easton, MD, died July 7, 1991. He worked for the federal government's Alcohol Tax Unit for 30 years. Stewart is survived by a daughter, a son, and five grandchildren.

Paul A. Zizelman, Jr. '29 of Bronxville, NY, died August 14, 1991. Zizelman was a paratrooper in the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division from 1942 until 1945, then worked in sales for Alba Waldensian Inc. until 1971. He is survived by a step-daughter and three grandchildren.

Kenneth Douty '31 of Lewes, DE, died of heart failure on September 2, 1991. As an English teacher at Southern High School in 1934, he became the first president of the Baltimore Teacher's Union. He left the city later that decade and worked as an organizer in the South for the Textile Workers Union of America, as a chief of a U.S. aid mission to France, and as director of the Illinois division of the American Civil Liberties Union in Chicago. He is survived by his wife, a daughter, a granddaughter, a sister and a brother. He was on campus with fellow classmates in May for his 60th reunion.

Charles M. Clark '33 of Towson, MD, died of a heart attack on September 26, 1991. Clark worked for the Equitable Life Insurance Society for more than 20 years, but his overriding interest was the Navy. Mr. Clark served in World War II as a captain of a landing craft and received the Naval Command at Sea Award. He was recalled during the Korean War and worked in Washington at the Naval Bureau. He is survived by one daughter and three grandsons.

Walter H. Rees '33 of La Plata, MD, and Oldsmar, FL, died May 25, 1991 in Florida. He served three years in the Navy during World War II and worked as a metallurgist with Republic Steel Co. in Canton, OH, and for the federal government as head of production at the Naval Ordnance Station in Indian Head, MD. He was active in the American Legion. He is survived by his wife Soyna, a daughter, a son, four grandsons, his brother, Howard Dale Rees, Jr. '35, and three sisters, Edith Rees '31, E. Gertrude Rees '30, and Laura R. Morgan.

Lois Staph Forseille '39 died recently. Her death was reported by a classmate.

Edward P. Davis '40 of Baltimore, MD, died May 6, 1991. He worked as an area sales representative for the Reed & Barton Silver Co. He is survived by his wife, Jean Richardson Davis '40, and one son.

Wilbur P. Barnes '49 of Moon Township, PA, and St. Petersburg, FL, died of cancer on September 18, 1991. He was an executive director with Pinellas Suncoast Transit Au-

thority, an executive with Allegheny County Port Authority, and vice president of Shafer Coach Lines, Moon Township. Will is survived by his wife, one daughter, one son, three grandchildren and one brother, Jack Barnes '47.

George Riggs '50 of Gladwyne, PA, died August 9, 1991 of cancer. A stockbroker with Barody & Sons in New York City for many years, he was with Dean Witter in Philadelphia when he retired. He is remembered by his contemporaries as president of KA and the genial manager of the WC Snack Bar. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

A. Frank Grumbine '53 of Westminster, MD, died June 21, 1991. He served in the Army during the Korean War and worked as a vocational counselor for the state of Maryland. He is survived by his wife, his mother, two daughters, two sons, two stepsons, three stepdaughters, one grandson, and one stepgranddaughter.

Juan Carlos Mora '87 of Madrid, Spain, died September 1, 1991 of a heart attack.

CORRECTION: The obituary for Thomas G. Narbeth '71 in the last issue failed to include the fact that in addition to being survived by his wife, Pamela Seneff Narbeth '69, a son, and a sister, he is survived by his parents, the Reverend Benjamin and Dorothy Narbeth. He died on May 20, 1991 at the age of 42 after a lengthy battle with cancer.

CURRENTS

Notes On The Score

by Professor Kathleen J. Mills

The College Community Chorus recently gave a concert of works by women composers in celebration of our centenary of coeducation—a real potpourri, by necessity, unless we were to have performed music by 20th-century American women, which is exactly what I plan for a recital of solo piano music.

Since teaching a special topics course on "Women in Music" three years ago I have been trying to integrate music by women into the traditional history and theory courses I teach. Such forays into curriculum development come very slowly because music textbooks rarely include even a cursory listing of the few familiar names of women composers such as Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, Cécile Chaminade, Mrs. H. H. A. Beach, and Germaine Tailleferre.

Worse is the difficulty of finding scores, recordings, and CDs of music to use in the classroom, the studio, and in our music department ensembles. Putting together a choral program and a piano recital involved more than a trip to a music store in Washington, D.C. That is why the College Community Chorus performed a sacred antiphon by Isabella Leonarda, a 17th-century Italian nun, alongside romantic part-songs by German Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel and settings of Oscar Wilde poems by contemporary American Emma Lou Diemer. Little repertoire from before 1900 is available and much from the 20th century is out of print anyway (all of Mrs. Beach's



Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

large choral works, for example).

Imagine my initial delight, then, upon reading about the second Bard College Music Festival over Labor Day weekend which was devoted to the music of Felix Mendelssohn and included a colloquium on the subject of Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (Felix's sister) and a performance of her piano cycle *Das Jahr*. For several years I have been trying to unearth performance editions of her piano music. I have one collection of 11 pieces which were selected by Hensel's great-granddaughter and published for the first time in Munich in 1986. Any other piano music by Hensel I have come by deviously, sad to say, and I have no authority to perform those pieces.

After hearing *Das Jahr* at the Bard Festival, Mark Swed proclaimed the cycle as "no help to feminists in the futile [!] search for a memorable 19th-century woman composer." Further, he criticised Bard for promoting Hensel when two deserving contemporary composers, Joan Tower and

Pauline Oliveros, live nearby. Why does he think a 19th-century woman could possibly be compared to a 20th-century woman? The opportunities for professional development are so different as to make the comparison ludicrous. A week later *Times* critic Edward Rothstein blithely attributed Felix's success and his sister's failure to degrees of talent: "Even after hearing four CDs of Fanny's works from C.P.O. Recordings, I'm afraid claims must be modest."

I'm crushed. Hensel's songs have always impressed me; Rothstein calls them "relatively banal" and describes her piano pieces as "works of some charm but un compelling character." The problem here is twofold. First, like must be compared to like; Hensel's character pieces and Lieder suffer when compared to longer, more complex forms. She was assured of performances in the Mendelssohn Sunday afternoon musicales when she wrote choral and piano music, but she was clearly restricted from making any professional steps toward performance of music requiring larger musical forces. Second, I give Rothstein credit for listening to most of what must be available to audiophiles of Hensel's music, but both he and Swed would be helping the cause much more if they campaigned actively to get this music out of the archives, into the hands of editors and publishers, and on to the concert stage where it can be given a full hearing and evaluation by the real critics, the audience.

Please don't close the door on Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel yet; she barely has her foot in it.

Kathleen Mills, an associate professor of music, is chair of the Centenary of Coeducation Committee.

DONOR'S PROFILE: **ELLEN CORDDRY ADKINS '49**



HOME: Salisbury, Maryland

GIVING LEVEL: 1782 Society

PROFESSION: Served as an Assistant in Anatomy at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine prior to her marriage. Now, a corporate secretary of E. S. Adkins and Company and member of its Executive Committee, as well as Vice President of E. S. Adkins Development Company.

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT: "Although I worked in the field of medical research, nothing has been more rewarding than raising our three children to become well-educated, responsible, and respectable citizens. Our older son is a pediatric surgical resident at the Children's Hospital of Michigan, our daughter is a counselor at Salisbury State University, and our younger son is a management consultant in New York."

WHY I GIVE: It is my expression of appreciation to Washington College for the positive impact it made on my life — for a good education, lasting friendships, and extraordinary memories. It not only is my obligation, but also my honor to return the favor to the College, showing my belief in a liberal education in general, and Washington College in particular. It is the least I can do."